

THE **S** RESOURCE

NEWS, REVIEWS, INFORMATION TO USE

June/July 2019
Volume 5 No. 5

SCALE

Our Survey: The State of S Scale
New Tracks: WiFi & Kit Building
Sudimak,s Service Station
Let's Build a Rex Boxcar
On The Workbench
S Scale West
Shows, Meets and so much more...



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O Scale vendor S Scale vendor No preference

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Published Bi Monthly

The Model Railroad Resource LLC
407 East Chippewa Street
Dwight, Illinois 60420
815-584-1577

June/July 2019
Volume 5 No. 5

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Welcome to the online S Scale Resource magazine. The magazine is presented in an easy to use format. The blue bar above the magazine has commands for previewing all the pages, advancing the pages forward or back, searching to go to a specific page, enlarging pages, printing pages, enlarging the view to full screen, and downloading a copy to your computer.

Front Cover Photo
Sudimak's Service Station
Picture by by Bill Hanslik, Jr.

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The Model Railroad Resource, LLC publishes *The O Scale Resource* and *The S Scale Resource*. Be sure to look at both of our magazines. There are many articles in our magazines that are not scale specific and will be of interest to you. Click the magazine title in this announcement to see the magazine.

From the Publisher's Desk



The spring shows are upon us, and this issue is being brought to you from S Scale West in Santa Clara, California. Be sure to check out our timely coverage in this issue will be published while we are at the show. This is always a fun show for us as we usually combine it with a vacation. This year, we will be leaving the show and heading to Seattle where we will depart on an Alaskan Cruise. Because of that, anything Dan buys will have to be shipped home. No carrying a locomotive through airport security like last year! We look forward to seeing friends and seeing what the West Coast has to offer.

Once home, we will be going full swing putting together the [O & S Scale Midwest Show in Indiaapolis](#). We will be featuring some new portable layouts this year, in addition to the Southeastern Michigan S Gaugers layout. If you haven't attended this show before, now is your chance! Not only are there portable layouts, there are also ongoing demonstrations in the trading hall. Mark your calendars for Saturday/Sunday this year, September 21-22, 2019. We hope the change to Saturday/Sunday will allow some of you who could not attend previously to do so.

As you read this issue, please keep in mind that we are always looking for new authors and articles. We also want to continue to feature pictures from our readers in "What's on Your Workbench" or "Scene Around the Layout". Just drop us an email with your pictures and a short description to be featured in an upcoming issue. Just drop an email to daniel@modelrailroadresource.com.

This issue includes some great ideas from Jim Kindraka and an affordable Rex kit build from Glenn Guerra. Jim Kellow once again has some great mentors, a contest and a surprise offer, so be sure to check out "New Tracks". Finally, be sure to check out the history behind our front cover model, Sudimak's Service Station.

I hope to see some of you in California!

Happy Reading & Happy Modeling,

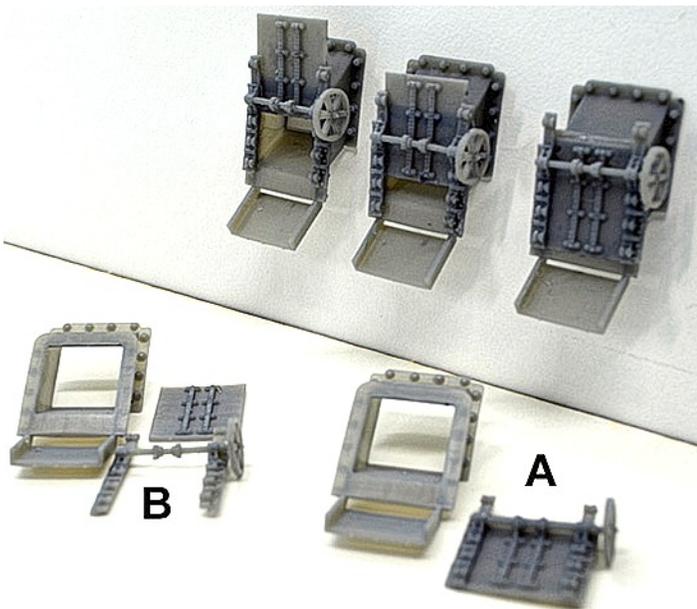
Amy Dawdy

NEWS YOU CAN USE



[Rusty Stumps Scale Models](#) is back with new castings.

Here is a real nice detail piece designed originally by Ed Traxler and modified some by Walt at Rusty Stumps. Gated Ore Chute with exceptional details. You have a choice between a 2 part or 3 part kit.



A is a 2 part kit has the door closed, that's the way it's 3D printed.

B is a 3 part kit allows you to set the door at the opening you want it at. The photo shows three possible, not all, locations of the door. Closed, partly open and completely open. How it's set is your choice.

Easy to paint and add detail to your ore bins. If the gate is set open you can glue some ore particles in the opening and also on the chute below as if tumbling into a waiting rail car, locomotive or horse drawn cart.

See details at [Rusty Stumps Scale Models](#).



[Steven's 3DGARAGE](#) has a new vehicles in 1/64 scale.

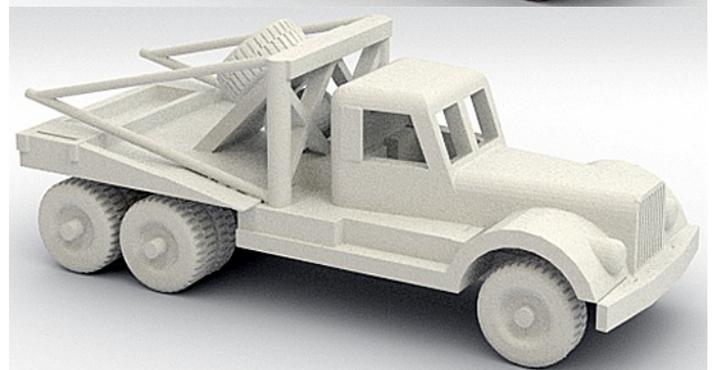


First off is a Ford Fordor - (Staff Car). This is a scale model of the nicely curved, American U.S. Army (Ford Fordor) staff car for 1:64 dioramas. Used for transporting high ranking staff personnel and airmen. Produced for the U.S. Army from 1942 till 1945.

See the details at [Steven's 3DGARAGE](#) Shapeways store.

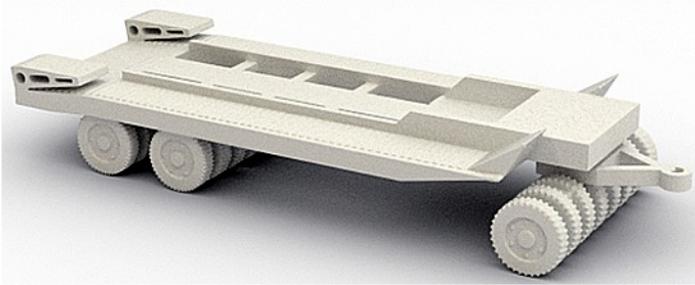


Another Shapeways product is a Diamond T Truck by [Bill's Models](#). In fact, Bill has several variations of this truck for sale.



The Diamond T Dump Truck and Diamond T Wrecker shown are very nice examples of this much used model.

Also a M20 Trailer is available.



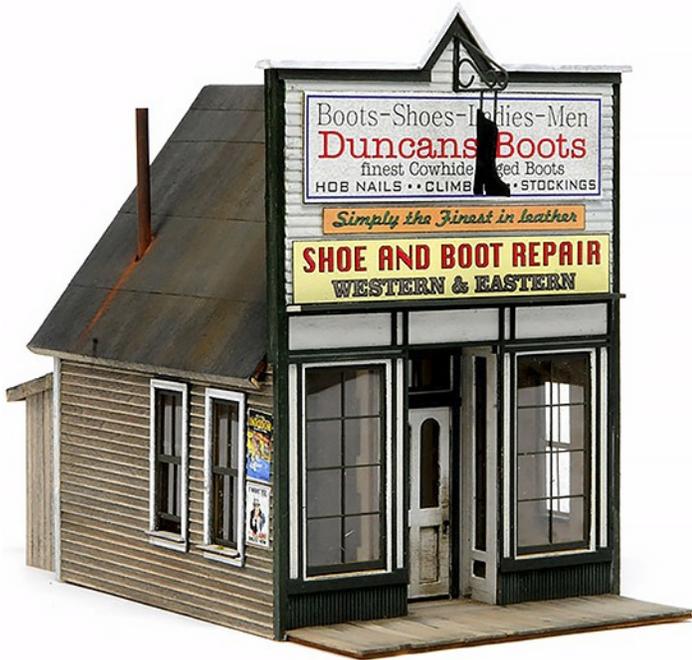
See all their offerings at [Bill's Models](#).

Our friend [Ron Sebastian](#) at [Des Plaines Hobbies](#) announced that he did another run of the SSA Fowler Box Kit. 40' Fowler Patent Single Sheathed Boxcar Kit Less/Trucks/Couplers/Lettering.



[Click here to see and order this car.](#)

[Banta Modelworks](#) has a new kit for us in S scale.



Duncan's Boots is made up from what we call the interior box, something all of our kits are designed with, and makes for a very stable and strong base to build from. Exterior siding is applied to that. The kit includes all you see in the photos including the signs.

The S scale footprint is 3" wide by 5" deep (including front walkway), and 4" tall.

See their [Website](#) for more details.



Dave from [LBR Enterprises](#) has a new marker light for 3/16 scale AF steamers. \$8.25 pr. with resistor attached plus free shipping in CONUS. There may be many uses for this in the scale world as well.

Comes in green, red, yellow or white.

See their [Website](#) for more information.

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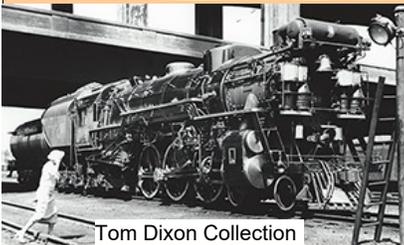
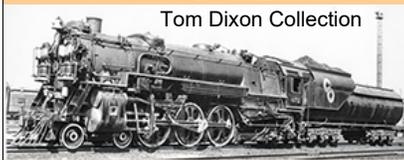
[CLICK HERE TO CONTACT US FOR DETAILS](#)

“Southern Pacific P-10 and Chesapeake & Ohio F-17, F-19 4-6-2 Pacific Project” In S Scale Brass!

Arn Menke Collection



Tom Dixon Collection



Tom Dixon Collection

These classic locomotives will be built in very limited quantities.

The SP P-10's will be built in four versions; regular boiler, skyline boiler, Daylight Paint scheme with full streamlining, and with early and late lettering.

The C&O F-17 will be built in three versions and all five of the F-19's will be offered. These classic locomotives powered the famous *The George Washington Sportsman*, and the *Fast Flying Virginian* passenger trains.

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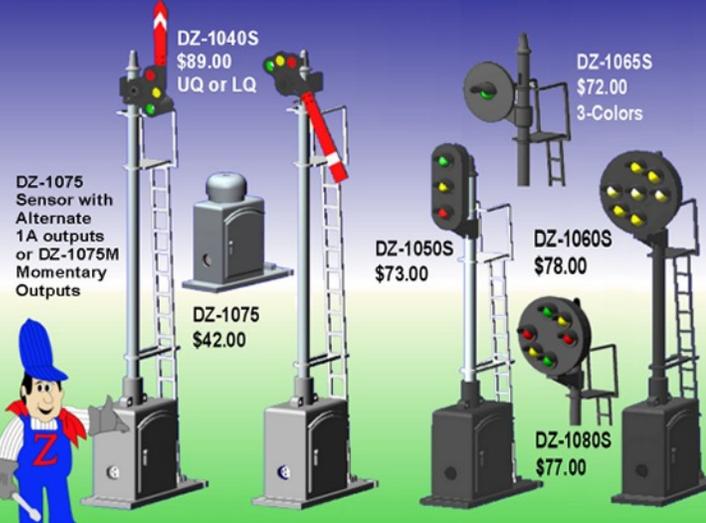
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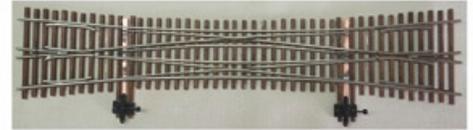
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THE S SCALE RESOURCE STATE OF S SCALE SURVEY

Back in the February/March issue of *The S Scale Resource* magazine we asked our readers to take our State of S Scale Survey. We received over 500 responses, which statistically, is fantastic! In this first cursory look, we'll show you the raw numbers, and then later in another article, we'll do some data mining and delve deeper into the results.

What is your age?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Less than 20 (B1)	1	0.20%
20 to 30 (B2)	1	0.20%
31 to 40 (B3)	4	0.78%
41 to 50 (B4)	16	3.12%
51 to 60 (B5)	52	10.16%
61 to 70 (B6)	149	29.10%
Over 70 (B7)	178	34.77%
No answer	25	4.88%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

What scale did you start in?

Answer	Count	Percentage
HO (A3)	98	19.14%
O three rail (A1)	49	9.57%
O (A5)	15	2.93%
TT (A2)	3	0.59%
N (A6)	11	2.15%
G (A4)	1	0.20%
OO (A7)	9	1.76%
Other	6	1.17%
No answer	0	0.00%
Not completed or Not displayed	320	62.50%

At what age did you start/switch to S scale?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Less than 20 (AQ03A)	181	35.35%
20 to 30 (AQ03B)	39	7.62%
31 to 40 (AQ03C)	43	8.40%
41 to 50 (AQ03D)	46	8.98%
51 to 60 (AQ03E)	44	8.59%
61 to 70 (AQ03F)	46	8.98%
Over 70 (AQ03G)	6	1.17%
No answer	21	4.10%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

What gauge is your primary modeling done in?

Answer	Count	Percentage
S (AQ4A)	325	63.48%
Sn3 (AQ4B)	32	6.25%
Sn2 (AQ4C)	5	0.98%
S scale traction (AQ4D)	2	0.39%
Other	44	8.59%
No answer	18	3.52%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

Did your model railroad hobby go dormant during your life?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	311	60.74%
No (A2)	102	19.92%
No answer	13	2.54%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

If your model railroad hobby went dormant, at what age did you pick up the hobby again?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Less than 20 (A1)	3	0.59%
20 to 30 (A2)	63	12.30%
31 to 40 (A3)	76	14.84%
41 to 50 (A4)	72	14.06%
51 to 60 (A5)	57	11.13%
61 to 70 (A6)	32	6.25%
Over 70 (A7)	5	0.98%
No answer	3	0.59%
Not completed or Not displayed	201	39.26%

If your hobby went dormant and you picked it up again, what scale were you interested in at the time?

Answer	Count	Percentage
N (A1)	17	3.32%
TT (A2)	0	0.00%
HO (A3)	86	16.80%
OO (A4)	0	0.00%
S (A5)	177	34.57%
O (A6)	19	3.71%
G (A7)	3	0.59%
Other	6	1.17%
No answer	3	0.59%
Not completed or Not displayed	201	39.26%

If you came to S Scale from some other size, what was of interest to you in S Scale?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Model size (SQ001)	239	46.68%
Detail of model (SQ002)	141	27.54%
Availability of equipment (SQ003)	40	7.81%
Availability of structures (SQ004)	11	2.15%
Other modeler friends (SQ005)	45	8.79%
Other	90	17.58%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

What code rail do you primarily use on your layout?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Code 70 (A1)	49	9.57%
Code 83 (A2)	35	6.84%
Code 100 (A6)	132	25.78%
Code 125 (A5)	46	8.98%
Code 138 (A4)	22	4.30%
Code 148 (A3)	58	11.33%
Other	52	10.16%
No answer	32	6.25%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

Do you use "Hi Rail" wheels on your otherwise scale layout?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	164	32.03%
No (A2)	236	46.09%
No answer	26	5.08%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

Why Do you use "Hi Rail" wheels?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Availability of track components, i.e. flex track, switches, and crossings (SQ001)	64	12.50%
Like to run my older Flyer equipment with my newer trains (SQ004)	130	25.39%
Availability of equipment (90329)	55	10.74%
Too expensive to change over (SQ003)	35	6.84%
More reliable, less chance of problems during operation (94692)	82	16.02%
I can't see the difference (SQ002)	13	2.54%
Other	15	2.93%
Not completed or Not displayed	348	67.97%

Do you hand lay any track?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	175	34.18%
No (A2)	233	45.51%
No answer	18	3.52%
Not completed or Not displayed	86	16.80%

I hand lay the following:

Answer	Count	Percentage
Just turnouts and other special trackwork flextrack is used for tangent track (A1)	71	13.87%
All track is handlaid (A2)	66	12.89%
Other	30	5.86%
No answer	8	1.56%
Not completed or Not displayed	337	65.82%

What other types of groups do you participate in?

Answer	Count	Percentage
NMRA (SQ001)	113	22.07%
NASG (SQ006)	228	44.53%
S Scale SIG (SQ008)	86	16.80%
Historical Societies (SQ002)	157	30.66%
Internet Forums (SQ003)	151	29.49%
Facebook (SQ004)	120	23.44%
Full Size Railroad Club (SQ005)	50	9.77%
Fraternal Organizations (SQ007)	30	5.86%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Is there an era that you are interested in and, if yes, what would it be?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Pre 1900 (A1)	6	1.17%
1900 to 1930 (A2)	25	4.88%
1930 to 1950 (A3)	134	26.17%
1950 to 1980 (A4)	170	33.20%
1980 to 2000 (A5)	15	2.93%
2000 to present (A6)	14	2.73%
No preference (A7)	46	8.98%
No answer	9	1.76%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Where do you get information about the prototype railroads?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Model magazines (SQ001)	326	63.67%
Historical societies (SQ002)	239	46.68%
Railroad museums (SQ003)	194	37.89%
Online searches (SQ004)	351	68.55%
Personal observation (SQ005)	216	42.19%
Books (SQ006)	306	59.77%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Which modeling magazines to you regularly read?

Answer	Count	Percentage
S Scale Resource (SQ001)	334	65.23%
NASG Dispatch (SQ002)	229	44.73%
Narrow Gauge Gazette (SQ003)	81	15.82%
Model Railroader (SQ004)	161	31.45%
Railroad Model Craftsman (SQ005)	129	25.20%
S Scale Sig Newsletter (SQ006)	61	11.91%
S Gaugian (SQ007)	152	29.69%
Other	109	21.29%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Which of the following interest you in your modeling?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Building models (SQ001)	299	58.40%
Prototype operations (SQ002)	144	28.12%
Making scenery (SQ003)	239	46.68%
Running the trains (SQ004)	325	63.48%
Collecting models (SQ005)	149	29.10%
Electronics (wiring) (SQ006)	149	29.10%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Do you like to modify your models?

Answer	Count	Percentage
I like to modify (A1)	278	54.30%
I prefer no modifications (A2)	132	25.78%
No answer	9	1.76%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Other than buying ready to run models, do you:

Answer	Count	Percentage
Kitbash (SQ001)	239	46.68%
Scratch Build (SQ002)	202	39.45%
Modify (SQ003)	283	55.27%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Do you look for advice on modeling ideas?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	360	70.31%
No (A2)	53	10.35%
No answer	6	1.17%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

Where do you look for advice on modeling ideas?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Online videos (SQ002)	263	51.37%
Magazine articles (SQ004)	333	65.04%
Books (SQ005)	230	44.92%
Other modelers (SQ003)	260	50.78%
Not completed or Not displayed	152	29.69%

Do you get ideas and/or help from any of the following?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Model car hobby (SQ001)	73	14.26%
Model airplane hobby (SQ002)	76	14.84%
Model boat hobby (SQ003)	34	6.64%
Wood working (SQ004)	137	26.76%
Metal working (SQ005)	88	17.19%
Military modeling (SQ006)	96	18.75%
Other	39	7.62%
Not completed or Not displayed	93	18.16%

How many manufacturers do you think make S Scale items?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Less than 10 (A1)	43	8.40%
20-30 (A2)	155	30.27%
30-40 (A3)	61	11.91%
40-50 (A4)	60	11.72%
50-60 (A5)	19	3.71%
60-70 (A6)	6	1.17%
70-80 (A7)	9	1.76%
80-90 (A8)	2	0.39%
90 -100 (A9)	15	2.93%
More than 100 (A10)	29	5.66%
No answer	9	1.76%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Do you buy mostly ready to run models?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	259	50.59%
No (A2)	140	27.34%
No answer	9	1.76%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Do you enjoy building kits?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	334	65.23%
No (A2)	64	12.50%
No answer	10	1.95%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

What type of kit do you enjoy building?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Motive Power (SQ001)	132	25.78%
Rolling Stock (SQ002)	244	47.66%
Buildings/Structures (SQ003)	318	62.11%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Do you only build kits because a ready to run model or structure is not available?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	126	24.61%
No (A2)	255	49.80%
No answer	27	5.27%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

If you are a scale modeler, do you look at highrail models to convert them to scale?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes (A1)	157	30.66%
No (A2)	182	35.55%
No answer	69	13.48%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

When looking at purchasing a new model what are your considerations?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Prototype (SQ001)	251	49.02%
Railroad name (SQ002)	254	49.61%
Detail of model (SQ003)	315	61.52%
Price of model (SQ004)	305	59.57%
Material the model is made out of (SQ005)	158	30.86%
Uniqueness / Availability (SQ006)	187	36.52%
Other	26	5.08%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Please rate the following in order of importance 1 = very important and 5 = not very important.

Railroad Name

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	132	27.10%
2 (2)	89	18.28%
3 (3)	72	14.78%
4 (4)	40	8.21%
5 (5)	50	10.27%
No answer	25	4.88%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Detail Of Model

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	146	29.14%
2 (2)	138	27.54%
3 (3)	65	12.97%
4 (4)	28	5.59%
5 (5)	20	3.99%
No answer	11	2.15%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Price Of Model

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	123	24.70%
2 (2)	91	18.27%
3 (3)	102	20.48%
4 (4)	44	8.84%
5 (5)	34	6.83%
No answer	14	2.73%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Material The Model Is Made Out Of

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	54	11.32%
2 (2)	81	16.98%
3 (3)	124	26.00%
4 (4)	56	11.74%
5 (5)	58	12.16%
No answer	35	6.84%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Please rate the following in order of importance 1 = very important and 5 = not very important.

Prototype

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	143	29.42%
2 (2)	85	17.49%
3 (3)	75	15.43%
4 (4)	38	7.82%
5 (5)	41	8.44%
No answer	26	5.08%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

Uniqueness / Availability

Answer	Count	Percentage
1 (1)	74	15.88%
2 (2)	92	19.74%
3 (3)	112	24.03%
4 (4)	38	8.15%
5 (5)	46	9.87%
No answer	46	8.98%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

How many S scale train shows a year do you attend?

Answer	Count	Percentage
None (A1)	114	22.27%
One (A2)	112	21.88%
Two (A3)	75	14.65%
Three (A4)	50	9.77%
Four (A5)	17	3.32%
Five (A6)	13	2.54%
More than five (A7)	22	4.30%
No answer	5	0.98%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

If you do not attend S scale train shows, why not?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Family obligations (SQ001)	64	12.50%
Cost of traveling (SQ002)	128	25.00%
Cost of show admission (SQ003)	15	2.93%
Cost of lodging (SQ004)	78	15.23%
Don't have the time (SQ005)	61	11.91%
Don't feel the need (SQ006)	42	8.20%
Other	57	11.13%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

When deciding to travel to a train show what are your concerns?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Distance to show (SQ001)	314	61.33%
Cost of travel (SQ002)	193	37.70%
Cost of lodging (SQ003)	181	35.35%
Cost of show admission (SQ004)	61	11.91%
Location of show (SQ005)	243	47.46%
What to do while attending the show, i.e. clinics, presentations, etc. (SQ006)	103	20.12%
What vendors will be at the show (SQ008)	177	34.57%
Local model railroads/layouts open for viewing (SQ007)	122	23.83%
Not completed or Not displayed	104	20.31%

In the next article, we'll start to really see what is going on as we begin to data mine as in the example below. We broke out the age group and then looked at the question "What other types of groups do you participate in?".

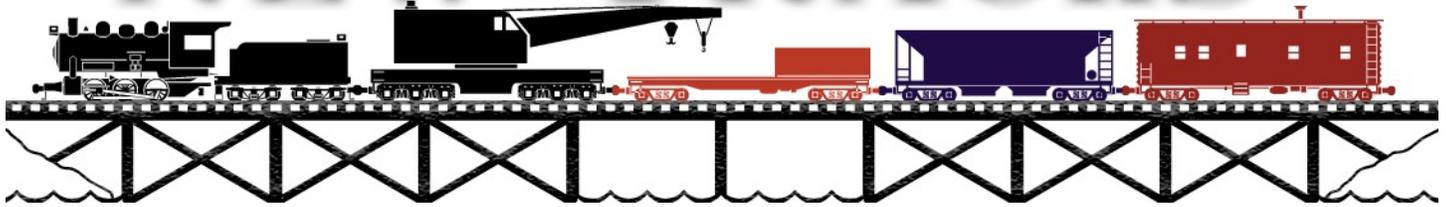
Under 20 through 50 year olds

Answer	Count	Percentage
NMRA (SQ001)	1	4.76%
NASG (SQ006)	7	33.33%
S Scale SIG (SQ008)	4	19.05%
Historical Societies (SQ002)	7	33.33%
Internet Forums (SQ003)	11	52.38%
Facebook (SQ004)	9	42.86%
Full Size Railroad Club (SQ005)	4	19.05%
Fraternal Organizations (SQ007)	2	9.52%
Not displayed	1	4.76%

51 and older

Answer	Count	Percentage
NMRA (SQ001)	104	28.26%
NASG (SQ006)	201	54.62%
S Scale SIG (SQ008)	76	20.65%
Historical Societies (SQ002)	137	37.23%
Internet Forums (SQ003)	129	35.05%
Facebook (SQ004)	102	27.72%
Full Size Railroad Club (SQ005)	40	10.87%
Fraternal Organizations (SQ007)	23	6.25%
Not displayed	1	0.27%

NEW TRACKS



Mentor Definition: A Trusted Counselor or Guide

By Contributing Editor Jim Kellow MMR

A New WiFi Control Solution, Two Special Modeler Profiles, Plus Great Card Manufacturers and Talented Mentors to Help Get You Building Card Models

Flash. Great News. Just Announced. Flash.

WiFi for S Scale is Coming!!

A while ago, I wrote a brief article about a new control solution that is based on a WiFi connection via an Android device. At that time, the control solution was only available commercially for HO. To refresh your memory I wrote: “I talked to Peeyush Garg, who is one of three partners that own [WiFi Model Railroad LLC](#), about their new WiFi control solution using an Android device (iOS version coming soon) and their app for our Train Control. I think they are really on to something. Their solution will allow the control of a DC, DCC, or Dead Rail unit, or a combination of motive power units to be controlled on the same layout. So a DC will be able to run on a DCC layout. In effect, with the WiFi solution, you may no longer need DCC. I wish it was available for use with our S or O Scale units, but it is not. It is only available in HO Scale at this time. But, according to Peeyush, it is coming to S and O Scale. I suggest all of us keep track of its development. I plan to profile the company when Peeyush tells me he has tested the larger units and is ready to bring it to market. Thanks Peeyush for your interest in bringing this new technology to model railroading.”

I recently talked to Peeyush and am pleased that he has had inquires from S Scale Modelers from my first article, and based on these comments and inquires, the **WiFi Models LLC wants to investigate designing a production unit specifically for S Scale modelers.**

I am pleased to be able to announce this decision and hope you will take a hard look at their new technology, when it becomes available, which I think could revolutionize how we control our model railroads.

In order to get their S Scale unit and app development underway, they have agreed to offer a contest to enable one S Scale Modeler to win one of their existing HO systems along with mentoring to make sure the unit will be appropriately used for the operation of S Scale locomotives that require no more than a 2 Amp motor (3 Amps including onboard electronics). The winner, in turn, will become a consultant to the company in developing its S Scale solution for production. The winner will also receive a free S Scale unit once its testing is complete.

What I think is great about this contest is that there are no losers. All S Scale modelers who enter the contest will receive a special email address for Peeyush to advise him directly about the specific features the S Scale unit should have to be most useful to S Scale modelers. Also, each modeler entering the contest will

receive a special advisors discount of 20% off the price for one of the S Scale Units when they are produced. What a great opportunity for all of us to have direct input into bringing a new cutting edge technology motive power control solution to our S Scale railroads.

Specifically the questions that Peeyush told me he needs addressed, by S Scale Advisors, for their S scale product are:

1. What is the max amperage in S scale?
2. Any dual motor models (current rating per motor)?
3. Preferred (types of) function outputs.
4. Maximum size.
5. How important is sound? Any interest in non-sound modules?
6. Any other comments, or operational suggestions we should consider for an S Scale unit?

He also told me: “We are customer driven from the very beginning. We try to take customer feedback at every step of the way to guide ourselves. This (the contest) is a great way to achieve that. I thank you for coming up with this idea and getting it across to your readers. Nothing better can come out of it than the entire modeling community collaborating on the effort.”

Originally Peeyush had asked me to answer questions about what S Scale modelers would want in a WiFi control unit for their railroad. Rather than me doing that, or asking another modeler I could recommend to help, I looked for a way to get all of you, our readers, involved. I discussed a contest idea with Dan Dawdy, the publisher of this magazine, and then suggested to Peeyush getting our readers involved in the development of the units through offering a contest drawing. The contest I outlined above grew out of those discussions.

I asked Peeyush to provide a detailed overview of their WiFi HO solution, and the technical requirements for its use in appropriate S Scale motive power. Please remember that the unit that will be initially provided to the contest winner was developed for HO use and is provided here with certain limitations noted for S Scale modelers. This HO unit is not being marketed at this time as a S Scale control solution, but is offered here to the contest winner to get expert actual S Scale Modeler input in what needs to be changed in the HO unit to make the unit operational for S Scale modelers. The following information will address the two specific questions I asked Peeyush which I believe will convince you of the importance of this new technology.

Why WiFi?

WiFi leverages powerful infrastructure already found in your home and the computing power in your hands (aka smartphones). Almost everyone has a WiFi access point (commonly called as a router) in their home or club layout. Almost everyone has a smartphone or tablet with them which is essentially a powerful computer first and then a phone (most tablets do not even have the phone capability, just pure raw computing power with a nice graphical user interface). For those, who don't have one or both of the above, an access point (no internet required) can be had for less than \$50 and an Android based smartphone for less than \$100 which is still less than most traditional handheld controllers (and even some DC power packs!).

WiFi is itself a protocol, a widely accepted, IEEE standards based, robust, powerful and secure that was invented to replace wired Ethernet. We don't have to re-invent the wheel with more standards. More standards means more compatibility issues and resolving them comes at added costs. The "custom" standards often have associated "custom" (read expensive) equipment. Being TCP/IP based, without worrying about lower layers in the stack (e.g. how to send the radio signal), you can have your custom protocol implementations on top of the stack if really needed.

The WiFi advantage:

1. Wireless. No wires. If you plan to provide power through the track, a simple DC power pack is all you need. Using battery to power allows for deadrail operation.
2. Direct. No intermediate devices.
3. Bi-directional.
4. High bandwidth.
5. You never lose control. Being wireless control, it doesn't matter where the power comes from. As long as the locomotive is powered, it can be controlled.
6. Any smartphone or tablet (that is WiFi standards compliant which includes almost all) is a throttle.
7. Lets you use power source of any kinds without having to worry about control (or even losing it). You can even use battery.
8. Opens the door to WiFi compliant devices be part of the ecosystem e.g. signals, turnouts, all kinds of sensors/detectors, or even any other IoT device (e.g. your IoT enabled coffee machine).
9. All IoT devices can inter-communicate directly to each other. Of course, a central control can be implemented if desired.
10. Possibility of operating a layout across the world remotely (as it seamlessly plugs into internet).
11. And many more possibilities!

What is the LocoFi™ advantage?:

1. Customizable sounds. Even third parties can contribute to the sounds.
2. The sounds reside on user removable microSD card.
3. Being graphical user interface based, there's no need to remember any CV programming codes. User friendly interface takes out the frustration of programming leading to more time and fun towards running trains.
4. Not only can you use any smartphone or tablet as a throttle, we use smartphones or tablets for almost everything everyday. Some people say a smartphone is not for train control. We say, why not?
5. Same hardware keeps upgrading with single touch "OTA" updates.
6. Already familiar with smartphones. No learning curve. In fact, kids run trains during our train shows.
7. Prototypical. Prototypical operations is at the heart of LocoFi™. Fine motor control with excellent slow speed.
8. Wide voltage range. As low as 9V or as high as 24V.
9. It was conceived "ground up" without even looking at any other system out there.
10. A very little known secret is that you can write your own system on the same hardware!
11. More power in the hands of the modeler. Customizing sounds for example opens up another aspect of the hobby just like electronics, scenery or trackwork while giving you control at the same time.

Current technical specs of “HO” DDLHA:

1. Input Power Type: Clean (NOT pulsed) DC, DCC or battery
2. Input Voltage: 9V - 24V
3. Current Rating: 3A (2A motor)
4. Motor Operating Voltage: Same as input voltage
5. WiFi Spectrum: b/g/n (2.4 GHz)
6. Smart Devices Supported: Android
7. Dimensions: 3.44" (L) x 0.67" (W)
8. Speaker with enclosure: 8ohm 1.5W; 1.02" (L) x 0.59" (W) x 0.27" (H)
9. Sound Scheme: Diesel; 8-bit 16kHz; .WAV; 3 channel polyphonic; stored on pluggable microSD to easily load custom sounds
10. Supported Sounds: Engine Startup, Idle, Shutdown, Horn and Bell
11. Skill Level: Basic soldering skills

12. Lights: Front and Rear, LEDs, On / Off, 10mA max on each output; resistors onboard
13. Other: Onboard capacitor for typical dirty track issues
14. Product Weight: 0.5oz
15. Shipping Weight: 3.5oz

To enter this drawing you must fill out this form:
<http://modelrailroadresource.com/Contests/WIFI.shtml>

The form will require, your name, address, telephone number, age, a statement you operate S Scale, not American Flyer, locomotive equipment on your own or a club layout, confidentiality agreement covering what you learn about company technology, agreement to test HO module according to instructions, and mentoring by company representative, and agreement to provide help to the company in designing a S Scale production module. The contest will begin at the time of the publication of this article and close on June 15, 2019. All modelers who enter this contest will have their emails provided to the company so the company can communicate directly with them through their newsletter or to get the modeler's input and update the modeler on the developments of the S Scale control solution.

I hope that many of you will participate in this effort to bring a new technology in model railroad control to S Scale. Thank you Peeyush of WiFi Models LLC and to Dan Dawdy, publisher of this magazine, for supporting this effort to have our S Scale readers have a direct input in the development of this new S Scale control unit and app. Please say thanks to Peeyush and WiFi Models by entering their contest.

If this contest idea works, as I personally believe it will, maybe other manufacturers will decide to solicit our readers input on new product development in a similar way. If other manufacturers are interested in discussing this program please contact me at jimkellow@sscaleresource.com. Good luck to all S Scale modelers going down some more "New Tracks".

Two Special Modeler Profiles Plus Great Card Manufacturers and Talented Mentors to Help Get You Building Card Models

Before I get to the Card Modeling article in this issue, I want to introduce you to two very special modelers. Alan Chesnut, winner of the Wiseman's 2018 model contest drawing, and Les Downey, a very talented and respected Australian S Scale Modeler.

Alan Chesnut, Winner of Wiseman Model Services Contest

Wiseman Model Services was the first S scale manufacturer to offer a model contest in my "New Tracks" articles. Their contest appeared in the [February/March 2018 issue of *The S Scale Resource*](#). Keith Wiseman, the owner, was so enthusiastic about my mentoring program he immediately agreed to be the first manufacturer to help in my efforts to get more modelers to build models and use experienced skilled modelers as mentors to help guide their efforts. Thank you Keith for having the faith in my efforts to be the First. As they say: "You never forget the first".

Alan Chesnut was the winner of the contest, and as I had hoped, has shared his experience of building the Wiseman Models Shanty Kit. Thank you Allen for your interest in entering the contest and your help by sharing with us your experience in building the Kit.

[Alan Chesnut](#)

Hello, my name is Alan Chesnut, and I was the fortunate winner of the first "New Tracks" contest. First off, I would like to introduce myself, and tell you a little about myself. While I have been building models since I was a kid, this is the first building of any scale I have completed. Since I was 8 years old, I have always

had model trains, and am currently working on my second and third layouts, however they have never been finished, scened, or had any buildings on them. My first 4x8 layout was disassembled when I left for college and put away in a garage. It has since been pulled out of storage and repurposed as one of my sons' 4x8 S scale layout that we are currently working together on. Originally it was a HO scale layout. The third layout I mentioned above is now being built with two of my other sons who prefer HO. So how did I have one son choose S scale?

Along with trains growing up, I collected and built model farm tractors. These come in three major scales. 1/16, 1/32 and 1/64 or S scale. I have been building and customizing model tractors for years, and even started a manufacturing company of high detailed farm equipment and model trucks. I have since sold the company so that I could spend more time with my four boys, ages 6-14, along with focus on my other job which is farming. Well, my second son Blake enjoyed farm toys and enjoys building model farm dioramas in 1/64 scale (he can put down scenery as good or better than I do since he has built so many). We are involved in many farm toy shows, and this is where I became acquainted with some other S scale modelers, Mick Hinkle and Charles Malinowski. Mick had an S scale set for sale and sold it to Blake for a very reasonable price, and a young S scaler was born. Blake is now 13. This is what ended up leading me to this contest.

Now to the model. The first thing I did was read through the instructions and tried to acquire all of the supplies I needed. Since I live an hour away from the nearest hobby store, I wanted to put everything together. Farming season then hit, so I was not able to work on the model for the summer. I picked it back up last fall and started again. For this time, I contacted Keith Wiseman. The following were the questions I asked and the answers I received:

Question: One of my pieces is warped. How hot of water do you use to straighten your materials. Is hot water from the faucet warm enough, or do I need to heat up on the stove or in the microwave? Do you weight them down once on a flat surface, and if so how long?

Answer: I would steer clear from the microwave, although I have done it in the past. I would try tap water first, then boiling water if needed. Get the part warm enough to flex then put something heavy on top of it to keep it flat until it fully cools. If it does not work, I can replace the part.

Question: While this is my first building, I have built other things such as model tractors, trains and trucks which have included resin models. I have cleaned these with simple green cleaner rather than dish soap. Is it OK to use this on your resin?

Answer: Simple Green will work fine. Preferred in My opinion.

Question: I do not have access to drafting tape. Will painters tape work, or is there other options? Where do you purchase your drafting tape?

Answer: Painters tape is primarily designed for Latex Paints. (I just learned that recently myself) . Drafting tape or Automotive pin-striping tape work well. I have also in the past had good luck with the plain tan masking tape as well a quilters tape found in the craft section at any Wal-Mart.

Question: I have looked around for a fiberglass scratch brush and can not seem to find one without ordering it online. Do you have a source where you purchase yours, or do you have an idea of something else that would work in it's place?

Answer: The use of the scratch brush is optional. I have seen them at craft stores and the like. P-B-L is probably the best source. I have plenty extras here and can send you one if needed. I personally have always liked to use sandpaper or a small wire brush wheel or similar as it scores a little better. I suggest scratching on the backside of a casting to see if you like the effect given. In the teachings my wife was given by her pottery

mentor: his biggest thing was “TIAS” meaning “Try It And See”. One of My favorite quotes of all time was made by Thomas Edison. “We have found 16000 plus ways not to make a light bulb. Aint that great?”

Question: In the painting section, you do not mention primer. Is there no need for primer? I have purchased enamel paints like the instructions suggested.

Answer: Should not need primer if the surfaces are good and clean.

Question: Also for painting you mention a retarder. Do you have a suggestion as this is all I can find. <https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-artists-painting-medium/D002880S.html#q=Winsor+&start=2>

Answer: Best retarders for enamel paints are at auto parts stores. I use what they now call a medium reducer. Most Napa stores or anywhere else that sells automotive paints will have something similar. I use it every time I paint. About half of the paint bottle’s cap full will work wonders. I have been using the same quart can since 1995 or so and used to paint Brass locomotives full time. It will probably be a lifetime supply, but worth every penny. Roughly \$20.00 or so.

Question: With your mixture, how long do you wait for the paint to dry before handling? I am considering building a drying box out of a mailbox and lamp kit, so wondering if this is the time to build it.

Answer: Hard to answer with humidity variables, etc., but usually 24-48 hours.

Question: What is your favorite adhesive for window glazing?

Answer: Model Airplane Canopy Glue or just a tiny drop of ACC applied at the corners only. It will wick across the joint.

Now with these answers in hand, I started the model. The first thing I did was cut off the excess resin around the edges and in the windows. I had my sons help in this process, but unfortunately this was the last step they helped with. My wife and I ran a Farm Toy Show for many years, but we decided it was time for



Here is Colin working with me cutting off the flash. He is my third oldest of four boys. They all enjoy building, operating, and attending shows with me.

some other young people to take over. We still participate in the show, and they have a very nice farm diorama contest. So between this and basketball, the boys did not help much on my model since they were working on their own diorama.

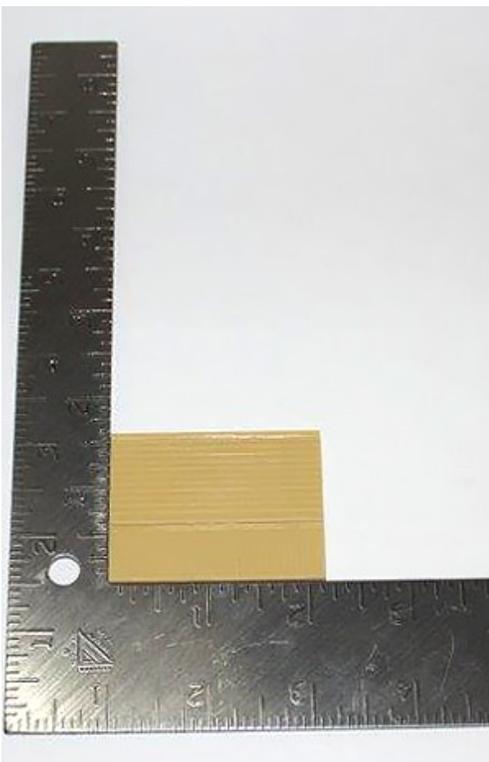
Once the parts were all cut out, I cleaned the pieces with Simple Green cleaner. I needed to flatten the pieces since some of them were warped. I did this by taking a mug of water and warming it in the microwave. The water was just hot enough that I could not keep my hand in it, but not hot enough to burn me. I placed the walls into



this for about a minute or until they became flexible, then laid them out on our formica countertop and weighted them down until they cooled. This did the trick and they were now flat again.

Once the pieces were cooled, I sanded the backs with a piece of sandpaper taped to a flat piece of thick glass. The window edges were sanded with pieces I cut from nail files purchased at a dollar store, and the edges were sanded with a Micro Mark sand-it in order to keep the edges square.

The parts were removed from the hot water and placed on the Formica countertop which is very flat. This was done because a few pieces were warped and needed to be straightened before sanding.



I then cleaned all of the pieces with Simple Green cleaner once again, checked for square, and sanded some more. For the second sanding, I taped the side walls together and the end walls together with double sided sticky tape. This way I would have the sides parallel. A quick note here, I borrowed my wife's tape, and she has what is called permanent tape for scrapbooking. I do not normally use this.

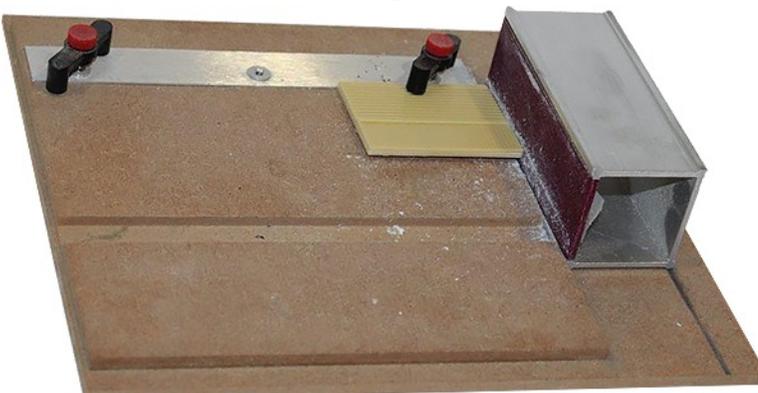
I had to take a hobby knife and cut the pieces apart then soak them in the Simple Green to get the tape off. After the second sanding I washed the parts once again with the Simple Green cleaner and a toothbrush. My thought with washing them multiple times, I would for sure remove any residue from the casting process.

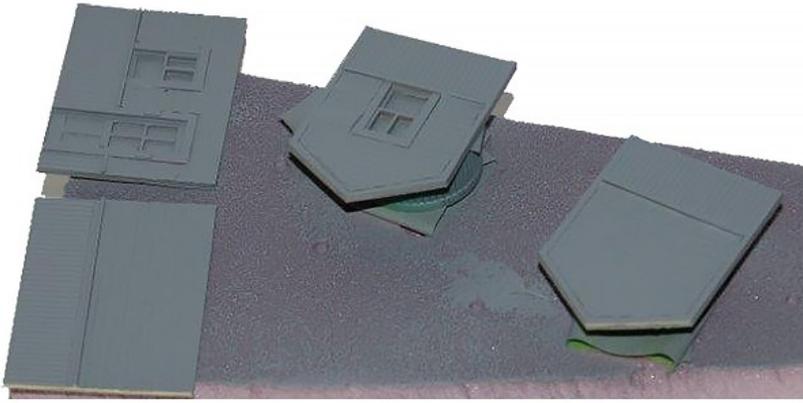
I decided to follow the instructions and paint the walls before I assembled being careful not to touch the now clean parts with my bare hands so that I would not leave oil from my skin or fingerprints. I painted the interior wall with Model Master Enamel 1735 Wood masking the edges that would be glued together. I used the tape suggested by Kieth, but I think I picked up a bad batch of tape, and it left a residue, so I switched to the only other tape I had which is called Frog Tape for the rest of the project.

As I sanded the pieces, I checked that each was square. I have always been particular about things being square and true, including when I build full size furniture and buildings.

Once the walls were dry, I decided on using gray for the outside. I wanted a two tone version, so I did some searching and finally chose Rustoleum Primer for the light gray, and Krylon dark gray primer for the dark gray. I have heard horror stories about mixing the two, so I masked off each section so the paint would not mix other than the edges. In my experience, you can mix the two, but I have always let them dry and cure for weeks before mixing, and

This is the Micro Mark Sand-It which works great for sanding things true and square. I have a bad habit of collecting tools, so this project was a great opportunity to actually use some of the tools I received for my birthday one year.





did not want to have that problem on this project, nor did I want to wait for curing so I masked the bare parts and painted the first coat, let it dry for 2 days, masked the second area and painted this section. I did have one small spot where the paint peeled off with the masking, but I was able to touch this up with a paint brush later on.

Once dry, I assembled the four walls using magnets and squares to make sure everything went together square and true.

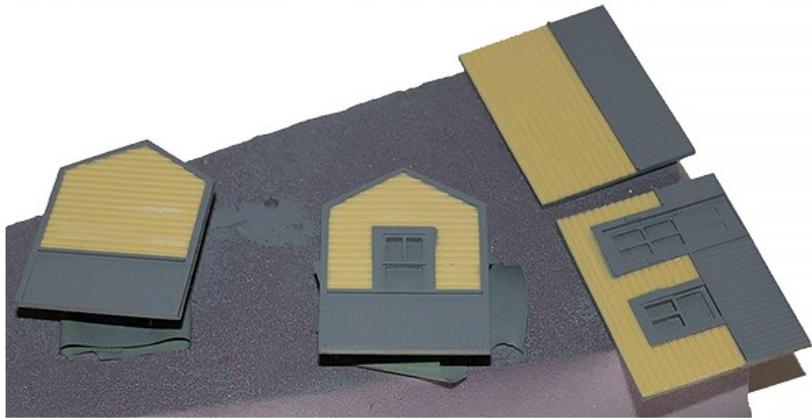
The next step was the roof and floor. The instructions say to leave the floor loose, but I chose to leave the roof loose and glue in the floor. We may use this building on a farm diorama, and the common practice is to leave the roof off with all of the interior detail glued into place. This gives me the option.

For the roof, I glued the two halves together and then filled any gap on the ridge in with CA glue. For the floor, I cleaned it with the Simple Green and then made a wash from Model Master 1736 Leather thinned with Testors enamel thinner since it was an enamel paint.

The parts were cast in a brown resin, so I did not make a base coat of paint. I plan on using this technique again, and if the parts are not brown, I will put down a base coat of Wood. I set this aside to dry, but forgot one thing. I did not tell the boys to leave it alone. While taking the final photos, I noticed a finger print in the paint, but it is light enough so I will cover it up with a desk or table if needed.

For the roof, I painted it rustoleum flat black, then covered it with Rustoleum multi colored textured aged Iron, then dusted it with more flat black, all in one setting. I then let this dry leaving a nice asphalt shingle look.

While these were drying, I installed the windows with very small drops of CA glue using a tool I made from a needle. I place the sharp point of the needle in a handle or dowel rod, then clip the tip of the eye off leaving a Y shape. This will pick up a very small amount of thin CA glue when you only need a small amount.



Top: This is the first coat of paint I applied after washing with simple green cleaner and using a toothbrush to make sure all residue and oils were removed. I used a rattle can of Krylon gray primer.

Lower: In this photo you can see where I removed the masking tape. Since I would be using Krylon and Rustoleum products, I decided to mask everything so I did not overlay two brands of paint that may or may not have worked well together. I also did not get two layers of thick paint on any part which would have hidden the details.



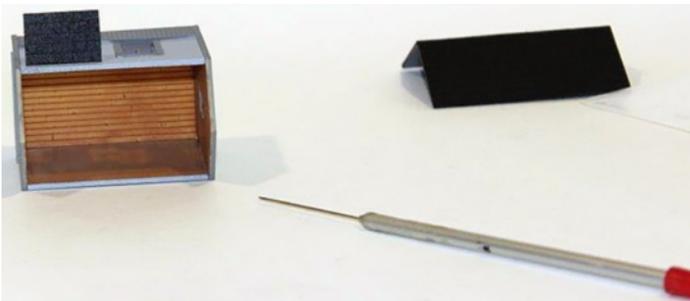
I used a jig purchased from Micro Mark to assemble the house one corner at a time. You can see the tool I used to apply glue, along with the machinist square I used to keep everything square.



For the roof, I butted the two parts together and held them with tape while flat. Then I put them on top of the building and tacked them together with CA glue. Once this solidified, I removed the roof and filled in any gap at the top with the CA glue.



Before final assembly, I painted the floor with a wash of Model Master leather to bring out the wood texture. I also painted the underside of the roof to match the trim on the building, then masked it off and painted the top of the shingles to represent asphalt shingles.



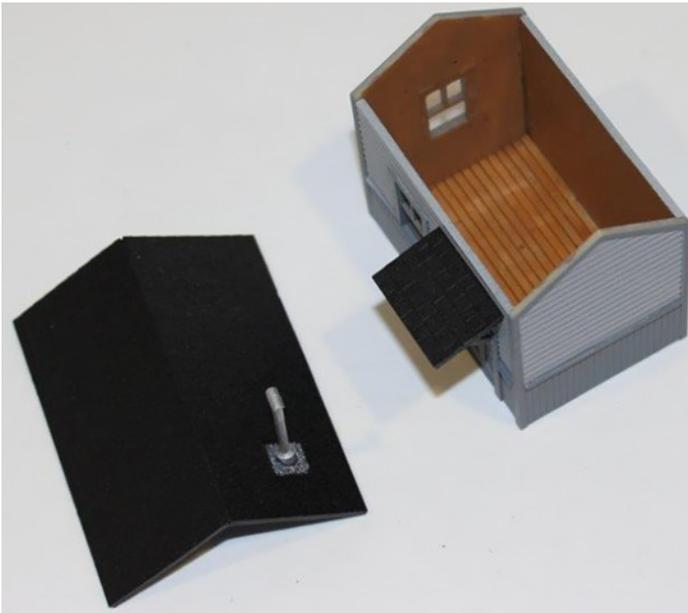
Once dried, I glued the floor into place. This differed from the instructions, but because of how I will be using the structure, I wanted the floor permanent and the roof removable.



The building is finished with the window glazing in place, and the areas on the door that needed to be touched up completed.



Here is a side view of the building where you can see in this picture the imperfections of the paint. This is one thing about new digital photography, you can blow a picture up and find all of your imperfections. However, to the naked eye, this looks like a normal paint job with imperfections you would find on a typical house.



Top view of the shanty with the roof removed.

My preferred CA is Bob Smith Industries super thin CA, but I ran out so I used some Loctite super control liquid glue that I purchased from a local hardware store. It did the job, but as soon as I can get back to a hobby store, I will be picking up some more of the BSI glue. It wicks into the cracks much better, and as long as you don't use too much, you will never see it even after a part has been painted.

Once the roof pieces were dry, I attached the roof over the door and the braces and let the glue dry overnight. I also painted the chimney, and flashing area, on the roof Testors acrylic silver. Once these were dry, I was ready for the final steps of gluing in the chimney and touching up any mishaps in the paint. This was done, and I officially finished the first build I have ever put together.

While I have done many models, I have never put a building together in its entirety. I am currently leaving it as is, but will weather the building some once I know where I would like to use it. It may be used as an out building, a scale house for a grain elevator, or as a watchman's shanty, I have not decided, but it will be used somewhere since it is a very nice looking building and could be used on anyone's S scale layout, you would just need to find a place for it.



Thanks again Keith and Alan for making my Contest idea a success. Alan, I really appreciate your help in conveying to our readers your experience in having Keith as a mentor, and in building your model of his Watchman's Shanty Kit. I hope this is the first of many model structures you and your sons build together. I also hope it has encouraged more of you who, like Alan, are not model builders to give it a try. After all, that is the purpose of my "New Tracks" articles.

Australian Modeling in S scale Introducing the Second Special Modeler

Many years ago, I was fortunate to have visited Australia and see some of the great modeling done there and meet some truly outstanding modelers. I would like you to meet Les Downey, a modeler I met online very recently, who brought back some great memories of my past visits. I had hoped to do a separate article on S scale modeling in Australia, but I could not find modelers to include. When I told Les this he said: “The modellers in Australia are a disjointed lot due to the different State and private railways and different gauges of track. Add to that the different modelling scales and we have little pockets of specialisation all over the Continent.”

Well I would still like to do an article on S Scale modeling in Australia, so obviously I will need help. I am hoping that by profiling Les here, I can find other S Scale Australian modelers to participate in my mentoring efforts. Thanks Les for all your help.



Les Downey

I'm Les Downey and I've lived in Brisbane Australia for the past 25 years after emigrating from Auckland New Zealand.

My current home layout is - The Kingston Branch, a point to point single line branch layout featuring a small country township.

I use code 70 nickel silver rail soldered onto PC board sleepers, but I have cheated in some of the unseen storage yards and used flex track. Points are mostly modified Shinohara but



The Grocers shop on my Kingston Branch. The newspaper signs have just been attached by the tradesman with the utility truck.

there are a couple of hand built ones. My intention is to replace as many of the Shinohara as possible because the soldered PC board ones are much smoother running. All my wheels are RP25/100 profile. I have a small industrial siding to a factory which I laid in code 55 to get that small rail old track look. But after I'd laid it, I discovered the rail I used was code 40 but it runs superbly, and looks great so the track gang haven't been sacked.



One of my scratchbuilt guards vans showing the steam loco soot and rain weathering.

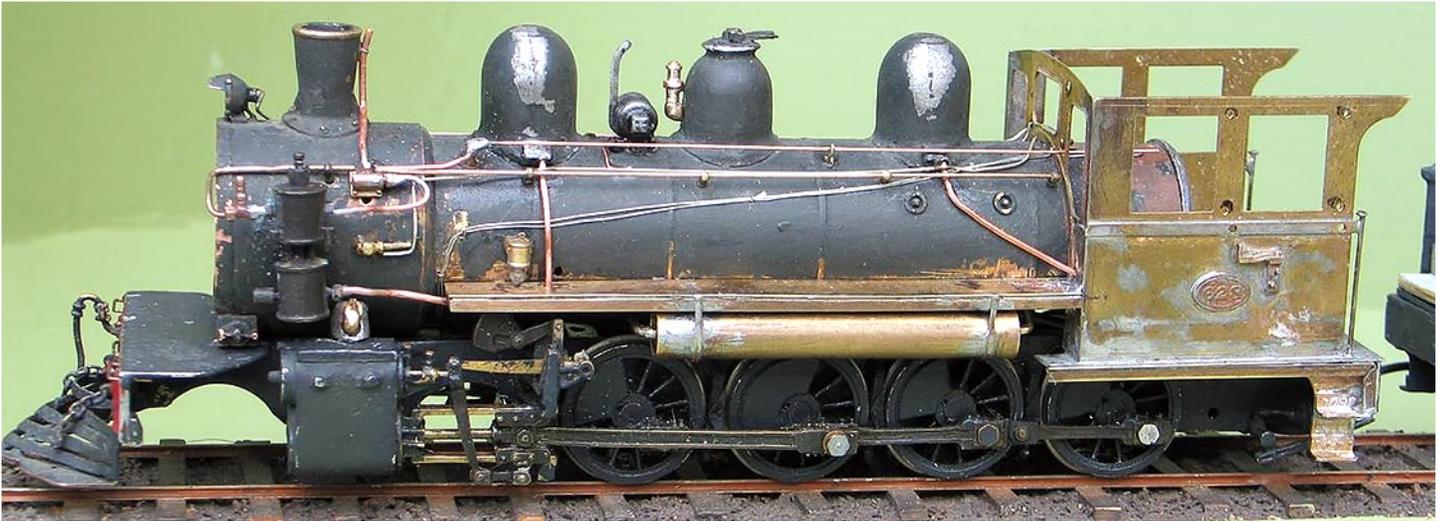


Kit built NZR A class loco I built for a friend.

DCC power became the latest and greatest after I had done all my wiring and bought my controllers; and at my age, I decided I had enough to complete without fitting all my locos with chips, and learning a new operating procedure. So DCC isn't for me.

Most of my locos have lighting and my guards vans have tail lights.

All the buildings are replicas of real ones from different locations and arranged in a representation of a typical small country location set in the early 1950's era. My desire has been to capture realism and atmosphere which has required considerable observation and many photographs.



Piping being added to a Bb class NZR loco for my own layout.



The Wharf on my layout. Still a work in progress.

I also believe in human and animal figures being in sustainable poses, ie no running figures staying on the same spot, or painters up ladders painting a wall that never gets any further advanced. An alternative is to have the ladders up, but the painters sitting having lunch.

I model in S scale, both New Zealand Railways and Queensland Railways which are 3 foot 6 inch gauge prototype railways.



Tortoise point motors at the South end of Waimauku Station on my layout. Normally these are covered by a ploughed paddock scene.

A summary of my history in model railways:

In 1953, I switched from modelling aircraft (airplanes) to trains so that I could have something that I could operate at home without having to travel miles to an approved flying ground. My first dabble was with an English Hornby Dublo OO scale set, but I soon tired of this as it was all ready to run and there was no model building potential in it. Then I started to become interested in British Great Western Railway prototype, but soon realised that as I knew little about that railway, I would have little chance of modelling anything realistic and authentic.

My travel to and from work each day took me past the Auckland New Zealand main railway yards and it occurred to me that New Zealand Railways that I could see and touch just had to be my prototype to model. At that time there were no models, kits, or accessories available in NZ Railways prototype, but I convinced myself that as I'd completed an apprenticeship in aircraft engineering scratchbuilding everything wouldn't be a problem. Post World War 2 import restrictions meant there was very little model product available, but periodically small quantities of HO scale 16.5mm track was on sale.

As New Zealand is a 3 foot 6 inch gauge railway, the use of HO scale track required models to a scale of 1/64 or S scale in order to be proportional. As luck would have it, all the NZ

Government Railways (NZGR) general identification drawings were to a scale of 1/64 full size. The NZGR engineering staff were very co-operative with the loan of drawings and I was underway. I still model NZGR to this scale, and since moving to Australia, I've also modelled in the same scale some Queensland Railway stock which prototype railway also runs on 3 foot 6 inch gauge track.

Over the years, many S scale NZGR kits have become available in New Zealand and currently is still the most prolific scale modelled in New Zealand. In Queensland, S scale is not as prolific as HO NG which has been boosted by a large variety of imported models of Australian prototypes in HO scale.

Over the years I've found myself engrossed in building available kits to the detriment of my first love, scratchbuilding. I've also built many models of locos, rolling stock, and accessories for other modellers, and in scales from N to O gauge.

In the face of advancing years, I decided some years ago to concentrate only on my own models. Like many older modellers, I've stacked up a bit of history with model railways, clubs, exhibitions, and associated activities. I've been involved in the building of three exhibition layouts and a major Museum layout, and am well advanced on my second and ultimate layout for myself. I have been a member of three formal clubs over



Train end lights on one of my guards vans.

the years, and in one, I was a committee member for 5 years including a stint as vice president and secretary respectively. I am still a member of one of them and was elected a life member 3 years ago.

My preference is for informal clubs and groups rather than structured ones as it minimises the administration and keeps the interest focussed on modelling rather than rules and procedures. Tends to reduce the self importance problem too as there are no positions to seek office for. Coincidentally, I've also been involved in three informal groups as well and one of them I'm still a member of. With another of them, a friend and I started the group and ran it for 14 years until I shifted to Australia.

Clubs often organise shows, public exhibitions, and conventions, and I've had my share of them also. I've undertaken most tasks including committee member, co-organisor, exhibitor, competition judge, clinic presenter, and clinic presentation co-ordinator, as well as the very necessary tasks of cleaning up afterwards.

My one and only entry in the competitions of the national convention won the top award in its class, but I always felt the focus on formal competitions was to find the best models, whereas I believe the focus should be more on attracting newcomers to have a go. I never entered a formal competition ever again, and I don't feel deprived at all.

Currently I'm the distributor for our subscriber only S scale modelling magazine and was for a time the editor. I write articles for this and for the NZ Model Railway Journal on a regular basis and have contributed to several other magazines.



A scratchbuilt station complex I built for a friend.

My personal modelling activities have taken a back seat from time to time over the years. Firstly, they were stood aside while I built models for other people and for manufacturers. And for over two decades, my involvement with a major transport museum meant my own modelling time was sparse. A big benefit though of working on and around full size railway locos and carriages, etc. has been of immense help in my modelling. It has given me a knowledge and understanding of what, where, and how things work and has taken a lot of guesswork out my modelling. It was for this same museum that I was the project co-ordinator for the construction of their NZ Railways themed model railway layout. In 1988, I was elected an honorary life member of the museum. I've found over the years a number of managers and many of the staff of both NZ Railways and Queensland Railways have been very helpful with plans, information, and access to operational and heritage areas.

As I have so many models of my own to complete, I no longer build for others, but I'm still willing to mentor or offer advice if asked and have done so regularly. I have built locomotives and fitted them with DCC, but not delved into it any deeper, and I also mastered 60/40 solder long before low melts became available so DCC and Low Melt soldering are two areas that I don't profess to have any knowledge of.

Conversely I have a paint spray booth, a grit blast cabinet, and I chemically blacken a lot of parts and fittings to get a durable non chip finish and these facilities see regular use. I use my digital camera during model construction as a fault finder, if there is anything wrong an enlarged digital picture from a macro lens will highlight it perfectly.

After 65 years of modelling railways there is quite a bit more history, but suffice to say I'm so pleased I switched to railway modelling all those years ago. I believe the hobby has helped me immensely and also given me great satisfaction.

I believe in encouraging newcomers and other modellers and to help them integrate into activities at meetings whenever I've been the lead person or had any influence I've insisted everyone give an informal chat for a couple of minutes during supper or afternoon tea if it's a day meeting. Topic has been "what I'm currently modelling", "what I'd like to model and why", or "what I don't want to model, and why". I've found that everyone sharing ideas has raised the enthusiasm tremendously.

Hopefully that will give some idea of what subjects I'm able to mentor on and I can be contacted at les.downey@sscaleresource.com.

Thanks Les for your interest. I really like to be able to share the model building efforts of outstanding modelers from all over the world. I hope others will contact me, wherever they live and let's talk. My email is jimkellow@sscaleresource.com. I love to meet new people who can open my modeling to new ideas. I truly believe model railroading is an international hobby.

Let's Talk About Card Modeling

Yes, I have finally started and finished my Clever Models kit of John Allen's Engine House, a card figure, Titanic deck chair, Sugar cane critter, and even cleaned up my workbench. I have received my big rig truck trailer from Team Track Models and think it is an unusual and outstanding model. Where are you with your to do list?

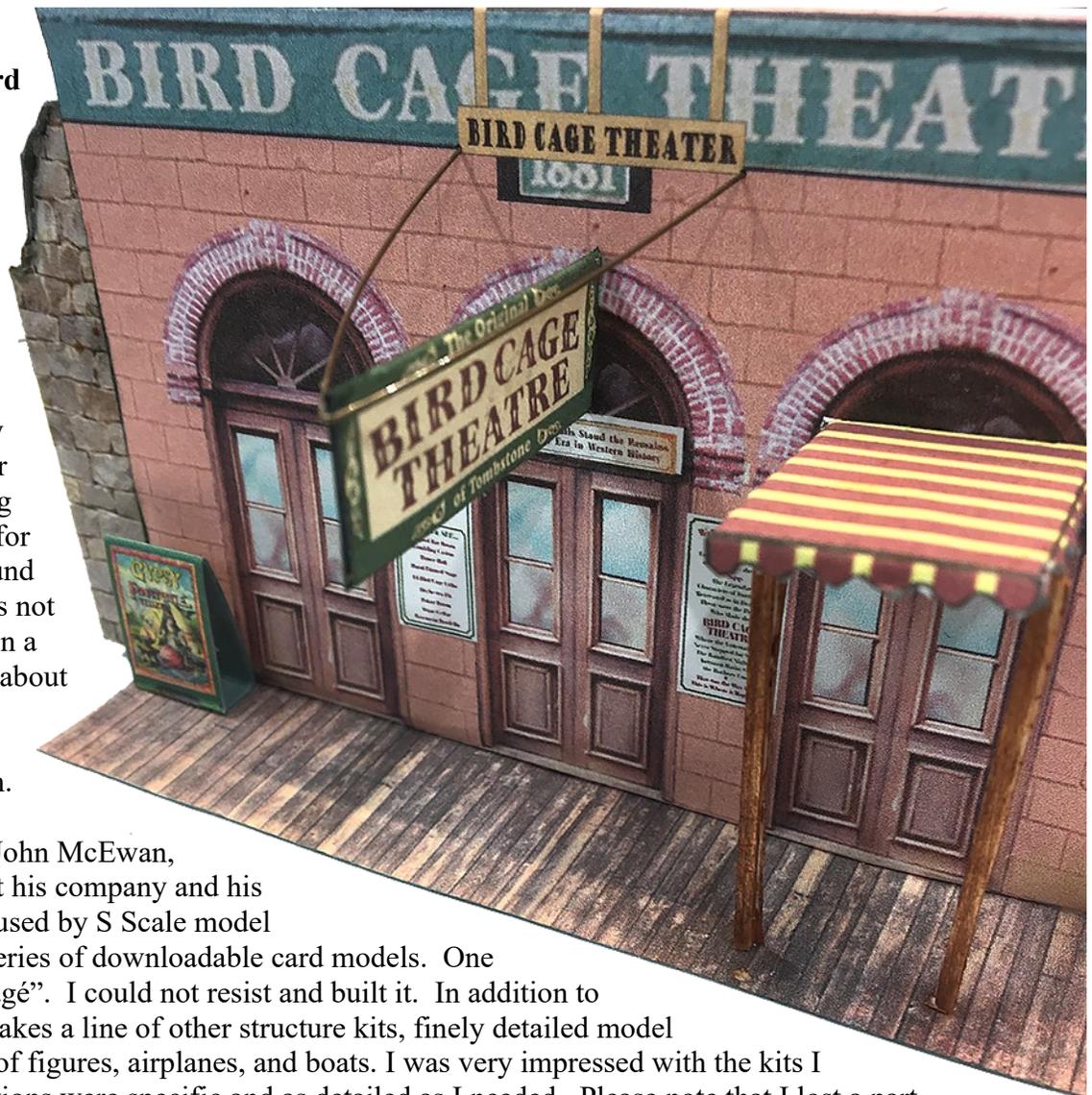
I want to continue to talk about Card modeling and profile some other fantastic creative designers and manufacturers you may want to use in your modeling. Yes, there are surprises, and yes, more mentor profiles I know you will find interesting.

Designers and Manufacturers of Card Models

Tin Soldier Models

Are you a war gamer? If not, you may not be familiar with Tin-Soldier Models. This company has been in business for over 40 years producing 1/64 models primarily for War Gamers. I just found them. Frankly, if it was not for a modeler posting on a Facebook page talking about some of their model vehicle kits, I doubt I would have found them.

I called the owner, John McEwan, and talked to him about his company and his products that could be used by S Scale model railroaders. He has a series of downloadable card models. One of these is the "Bird Cagé". I could not resist and built it. In addition to card structures, John makes a line of other structure kits, finely detailed model vehicles, a wide range of figures, airplanes, and boats. I was very impressed with the kits I have built. His instructions were specific and as detailed as I needed. Please note that I lost a part for the fire engine ladder hangers and scratch built some new ones out of brass wire. I enjoyed building both kits.





I want to introduce you to John McEwan and his company, Tin-Soldier. I think this is a great manufacturer for S Scale modelers to consider for their model building.

John McEwan

Back in the day when dinosaurs ruled the earth (1957), I saw an article in a magazine about people who played games with 54mm figures. I was fascinated, but unable to find much more information about it.



I grew up in a little town south of Las Vegas, Nevada called Boulder City. There wasn't much to do there - so I invented a simple WWII Pacific Island hopping game, utilizing painted plaster islands decorated with tiny blobs of green sponge and little warships hand carved from balsa wood. My friends and I played this game off and on before High School graduation - when we weren't shooting off homemade fireworks and rockets.

I also had a HO scale model railroad which was set in the 1970's in northern Nevada. The late 50's were a time when western movies were very popular. My friends and I had a lot of fun playing out train robberies, and gunfights, using homemade game rules. Unfortunately, the model railroad had to go when I left for college. When you are young and footloose, living in rentals; model railroading is a difficult hobby to follow.

War gaming was still a largely unknown hobby during my college years at Brigham Young University, and after graduation my wife and I moved to Salt Lake City. One day I chanced to call in at Douglas Models where I found their front window filled with 25mm Hinton Hunt Napoleonic troops and a fine looking Vabin type fortress filled with cannons. Wow! This looked like fun. A local Doctor named Whit Young had assembled this display in an attempt to attract likeminded folks to begin a war-games club.

Napoleonic gaming was fun, but the games moved awfully slow. A single battle might take two or three months to play out. I wanted something a little faster. Inspired by Heinlein's book "Starship Troopers", some of my friends and I began to talk about a Science Fiction game where each figure would represent one man not hundreds. Thus "Starguard" was conceived. It began with two dimensional paper cut out figures, but these were not very satisfying.

I began to experiment with casting, which eventually led to the formation of McEwan Miniatures. The first edition of Starguard was published in 1974 and was the first Science Fiction miniatures game on the market. As part of a company restructuring, McEwan Miniatures became Reviresco and we put most of our design and sales efforts into producing scale models and miniature figurines for wargaming. I still maintained an active interest in model railroading and many of the models and figures I designed and sculpted were intended to be of use to both gamers and S gauge model railroaders.

After I retired from Utah Department of Transportation in 1993, my wife and I moved to Olympia, Washington. When I found out that there was a local gaming show called Enfilade, I couldn't wait to be part of The S Scale Resource June/July 2019

it. I have attended several gaming shows in various parts of the country over the past 30 years or so and feel that I must say that although smaller than many, Enfilade is by far one of the very best I have ever experienced.

As part of my business, my wife and I also have attended several model railroad shows. However, we came to the conclusion that our line of model railroad items was too small to justify the expense of traveling to model railroad shows.

At present I still maintain an interest in steam trains and old time narrow gage railroads. So occasionally I will do up a kit along those lines.

The Rural Garage is a case in point. While looking at old photos on a website called Shorpy.com, I found a photo of a forlorn looking old run down service station at the crossing of two dirt roads out in the middle of dust bowl Oklahoma. It looked so delightfully rustic. Like it was the last place Bonnie and Clyde robbed before they took their last trip to Texas. I just had to make it up. Of course I had to guess what the other two sides looked like, but on a structure this small it wasn't too hard to do.



Thanks, John McEwan.

Tin-Soldier

I encourage everyone to go to the Company's website tin-soldier.com and investigate all of the various products in 1/64 S Scale that are available. Particularly look at the various figures that are available. Here are several that I am going to build.

REVIRESCO
SET 690
SURVEY CREW

28mm, 1/64th Scale
\$10.00

There are many types of scenes that you can create using his products. Old west, early 1900s, the roaring 20s, baseball games, boxing matches, fire departments, aircraft terminals, boat docks, as well as English or Mexican locations. I know I have left many scenes out, but using your imagination, I am sure you will find them. If enough of us start buying his products, maybe he will decide to offer us even more variety to choose from. I hope so.

I discussed with John about offering a judged contest so readers of my article could have a chance to win some of his S Scale models, and experience the same fun and thrill of building one of his kits that I had. He did not hesitate and immediately agreed.

John suggested modelers download his card model of the Ghost Car, and use it in a scene either on their model railroad or a separate diorama. I have built 2 versions of this car. One according to the instructions stated, and a second one with clear windows. I know this may sound strange, but I am thinking of

using the plans of the card model and building a model in brass with an interior, or maybe I will build it as a convertible if I can find photos. I really like the looks of the car, and am always looking for new models to build in brass. I have a cemetery on my layout and I may incorporate the Ghost car in it. Trust me I really like this card car model and think you will also like it.



How to enter the Tin-Soldier Judged Contest

**A modeler can only submit one entry.
All entries must be submitted by June 30th, 2019.**

Photo credits will be given on all photos John uses in his ads. So John will need the photographer's name and layout name if available. John believes this kit will be a great building experience for all modelers and a special addition to their model railroads.

John suggested the winners prize be a \$25.00 gift certificate to the winner and a \$15.00 gift certificate to the 2nd place winner. Both gift certificates can be used to purchase any products produced by Tin-Soldier.

I can't wait to see photos of the Tin-Soldier Model on the winners' layout, and have the winners tell us about their experience in building the kit, and creating the scene. Their model kit building experience and photos of their completed model will be included in a future "New Tracks" article in this magazine for all of us to enjoy. Please show your thanks to John by entering his contest.

I wish everyone the best of luck in the Tin-Soldier contest and look forward to seeing the photos of the Tin-Soldier completed model and the scene it was used in.

Thanks again John for your help and interest in S Scale model railroading.

The following New Tracks article ran in the [March/April issue of The O Scale Resource Magazine](#). We thought we would also run it here in case some of you did not see it. This is some great information on card stock modeling.



Designers/Manufacturers of Card models

Paul Sanchez
Product Designer of Paul Estudios

(Make sure you read all of Paul's profile as he makes a great offer for you to get some of his "PaperHumans" for free)

When I first found Paul and his "PaperHuman" figures, I had more questions than anything else. So I emailed Paul to find out what he was doing.

His reply about his figures only made me more curious.

Paul told me: "My figures, PaperHuman, come with a body unpainted, and the clothes painted because they are on a printed sheet, each figure can be customizable to a desired posture, by example a seating position for the engineer, or standing or bending workers on the track."



I just had to build one. Paul is correct. The O Scale sailor I made sits in my Card model of a Titanic deck chair.

It was a fun build. I have included, at the end of Paul's profile, our email exchange as I build the O Scale sailor.

But first, please meet Paul Sanchez, the Designer of the "PaperHuman" models.

Hello I am Paul Sanchez from Tarragona Spain, as many of us, I have been building scale models since I was a child. In that period, the computers weren't so common as today so I had to design my own models by hand, testing and re-designing, acquiring more and more experience. Although I like to build plastic models, paper modeling has become my favorite hobby. After my degree in electronic engineering and working for different companies, I decided to open my own brand with my products, most of them based on paper-modeling.

I am a big fan of airplanes and trains, to me it is better to create a diorama with a good and simple scene than with the single model. In paper-modeling, its a bit difficult to find figures made of paper as well, plastic figures are really good, but they came in some postures and it feels like "cheating" using another material for the diorama. I decided to try some designs for paper figures and that is how my PaperHuman was born, a complete paper figure in the right scale and fully posture customizable, with arms and legs that can be bent that can fit everywhere.

The first designs for paper figures are made in 1:33 scale because most airplanes came in such scale, the first version of PaperHuman (V1) is designed with the idea of "download and print". That is quite enough for a single pilot with helmet, but I quickly noticed that if you want to build more that one figure you need something faster; that is the reason why version 2 (V2) was designed, Laser cut figures ready to build, great to build more figures faster than V1.

But, I wanted to improve more the PaperHuman figures to find a good 3D shape as plastic does for a more realistic diorama. I have been working and researching with different paper pulps until I found a way to cast the paper pulp to any shape and get it dry, and version 3 has born (V3) PaperHuman figures with real 3D shape, made of paper and customizable postures.

PaperHuman figures will now expand to other scales to fill that “hole” for paper modelers and others who wants a diorama, 1:25 for army, tanks and others vehicles, 1:48 for sailors, airplanes, railways, and others, 1:64 for railway sets and farm modelers, 1:200 & 1:250 for ships, and the list will continue increasing.

[PaulEstudios](#) (my brand company) has 3 lines of products, first, custom made models, reproductions and exclusive gifts even for companies and for private, like retirement gifts or architectural models. The second part is hobby articles and figures, PaperHuman figures and scale trees for the moment. And the third part is games, card games, board games and educational games, all this games designed by me, from the game thematic until the illustration. There are some games that are available like Safari Sabana, a card game, and PaperField, a strategic tanks board game, but I am working in a new line of games with education as base, games where players really learn while playing. These educational games are focused for schools.

Regarding mentoring in railway model, I can bring a whole family of figures for both scales O and S, not only the figure itself, building tips, techniques, paints, and all about figures.

When Jim first contacted me about my figures for S Scale (1/64”) and O Scale (1/4”), we discussed other product ideas and production techniques I was considering. I asked Jim for his ideas, and after some discussion, we decided I should ask you, my customers, for your ideas for new products I should produce for the S Scale and O Scale model railroad markets. So that is what I want to do.

In exchange for your help in providing me with new product ideas I should produce, I will provide the three (3) modelers who come up with the best new product ideas for me to produce, a free model of their idea, plus ten (10) of my paper figures in either S or O Scale.



How to enter Paul’s new product idea contest

Please submit your new product ideas to me at paulestudios@gmail.com by (three weeks after publication). Your entry should include a description of your new product idea, your name, mailing address, and email address. I will contact the three (3) winners directly by email and Jim will announce the the winners in a future “New Tracks” article in this magazine. I look forward to hearing your model ideas that you want me to produce.

Thank you in advance for your interest and help in producing new models that the S and O Scale model railroading market would like to have.

Paul is a very talented product designer and I hope many of you take him up on his offer. We can all use more figures, particularly figures we can pose in whatever position we need.

My initial questions to Paul as I built my first figure

When I started writing this profile about Paul’s figures, he was kind enough to send me a sample of his S and O scale figures to build. Below are some of my questions and Paul’s answers to questions I had when I started to build my first of Paul’s figures.

I asked Paul: I can not negotiate your site because it is not in English. That is going to be a problem for readers of the article. I think we need to put in links to the S and O scale figures. You may also want to price in USD, as euros is not going to mean anything to a lot of modelers. Also in the O Scale page, you have S engineer listed. Should that be O? I also want to mention some things about instructions I have read so far. Great photos and alphabet letters for assembly.

In general instructions, I have these comments.

1. What does "Adjust or modify body parts to fit with the desired pose" mean? What do I modify in the figure for what pose? What and how do I adjust what parts of figure for a pose?
2. Place feet first on the surface. What surface? A piece of clear plastic or what? Do I have to put figure in its final standing position before gluing legs onto the figure? What If I want seated figure? How far apart and in what position should shoes be placed? Same position of shoes for all positions of figure?
3. What are V3 3D body parts? What do they cost? Why should I get them?

These are the questions in my mind as I sit down to build my first figure. After having built some figures, I may not have these questions. Do these questions need to be answered for first time customers to ease them into having a first time easy build?

Paul's answers: Thanks a lot for the feedback and questions, as I told you paper modeling is very different from plastic ones, and also my figures techniques are different from normal paper modeling, I am creating a new kind of hobby so everything could be difficult to explain, to me is very important to know what customers think about the product so, let's start answering!

- In the upper left part of the site, between the logo and menu you will find different flags, click on them to change the language, if you are browsing the site via mobile or tablet there is a white menu button, click on it to find the flags, the site is a bit different from PC to mobiles / tablets. That is why I always recommend to visit the site via PC.
- I like the idea to include the direct links to the figures page.
S scale engineer: <https://paulestudios.com/juegos/index.php/es/product/49-ph-6401>
O scale sailor: <https://paulestudios.com/juegos/index.php/es/product/50-1-48-us-navy-sailor>
O scale and 1:48 is the same, at the moment there is a sailor, but I will design more and more figures.
- The price in EURO, ok I understand what you meant, I will look up what I can do about it, anyway when you complete the purchase and pay with PayPal, PayPal changes it to your local currency, in your case USD, but I will find the way to show price in others currency.
- At the end of the figure page, there are related products, and that's why you see the S engineer listed.

Question 1: As the figure is made of paper, and extremities come along, modelers can bend the arm or legs and glue in the position he wants the figure. This is a bit hard to explain, modelers need to bend parts before gluing the clothes. By example, a modeler buys a blister with two figure on it, as you notice, bodies are the same in both figures, but this modelers wants a seat engineer and the other to stand; so, for the seat one, build extremities, bend extremities and then glue them to the torso, then the head. For the standing figure, he doesn't need to bend anything. And with one body design, you can get a fully customizable figure.

Question 2: This is when modeler wants to build a stand figure, no need to glue feet on a plastic or paper surface, just place feet in a flat surface (any flat surface, by example a table) them glue the rest of the body to feet, the idea with this is to get a figure that can stand by itself.

Question 3: In the article I wrote for you, I explain what V1, V2 and V3 are, and add I include it in all my PDF documents. At the moment, there are no V3 bodies for S or O scale, only 1:33 or 1:25 scale.

I hope I have answered your questions, feel free to ask me what you want. As you said, after some builds, you will get more experience in assembling figures.

I am pleased to announce that Paul has agreed to write a separate article on building his paper figures for *The S Scale Resource* magazine. Keep your eye out for it, even you O Scale modelers will benefit. It will be a great way for you to learn to build your first figure with Paul. Thanks Paul for doing the article.

If you think Paul can help you use his figures in your modeling, please let him know. I am sure he will help you in any way possible to enhance your modeling scenes with his “PaperHuman” figures. Also, do not forget to get him new product ideas and maybe win one of the prizes. paulestudios@gmail.com

Check out the two PDF downloads: [Body assembly for S scale figures](#) and [Clothes assembly for S scale figures](#). It’s really fascinating how these are built and go together.

Scale Models Plans.com

Tom Carson, the company owner, is a great guy who has really been helpful to me in understanding Card modeling and its potential. Please read about the “Surprise Model” you can download for free and meet Tom:



It is rumored that the Popsicle was discovered by accident when 11 year old Frank Epperson left some ingredients and a stir stick outside in the cold. [ScaleModelPlans.com](#) was not the result of diligent market analysis, surveys, and feasibility studies. We may not be as popular as the Popsicle, and we didn’t get our inspiration from being left overnight in the freezing cold, but like the Popsicle, we started by accident.

Consisting of myself, various contributors across the continent, and the occasional help from family members, it started from a casual suggestion from my wife while I was at my computer designing some structures for a new HO scale model railroad layout.

As a former architectural designer, I have amassed a large collection of plans of various buildings. Following the mantra, “Intelligence is the ability to perform a task, genius is the ability to minimize it”, I thought I could go through my collection and just reduce them to HO scale. But like they say, “The best laid plans, (no pun intended), of mice and men often go awry”. I soon realized that very few of my existing plans would fit in with either the era or the setting of my intended project. This unfortunate revelation prompted me to head to the closest CN station to get some photos and measurements for what would be the first purpose-driven design project of my new layout. It was later on, while sitting at my computer entering the data, that the idea of creating scale plans for other model builders was born.

It was actually my wife’s suggestion to combine my background in architectural design, website development, computer graphics, woodworking, and model railroading, into a business that would help model builders and diorama artists deal with the more tedious aspects of building from scratch. I balked at first, wondering how the same amount of time and effort in preparing a set of house plans typically selling for thousands of dollars could justify selling scaled-down versions at anything near affordable prices, particularly when the target group consisted mainly of seniors living on pensions, but with some skepticism, I accepted the challenge.

Including site visits, photography, drafting, graphics, website updates, etc., it can take between 150 to 200 hours to produce a complete plan package. Multiply this by the cost of technical expertise, site visits, software licenses, etc., and it's easy to see why a set of house plans can cost in the thousands of dollars. The challenge was, how do I create a ten dollar item with a thousand dollar effort? The answer was - don't expect to get rich, do it for the love of the hobby, and recruit others who have the same passion. And, like my wife said, "It's the Internet, it's all over the world" so volume helps. Eight years later it seems she was right. We now sell scaled plans and cardstock versions to model builders in over fifty countries around the world. Pretty well every country that has a railroad also has a group of people who model them.

My preferred scale is HO, because that was my first. I still have most of my original layout from when I was ten years old. It has even left the family, been disassembled and reassembled several times, and is now back in my possession. It has served me, my children, and eventually my grandchildren.

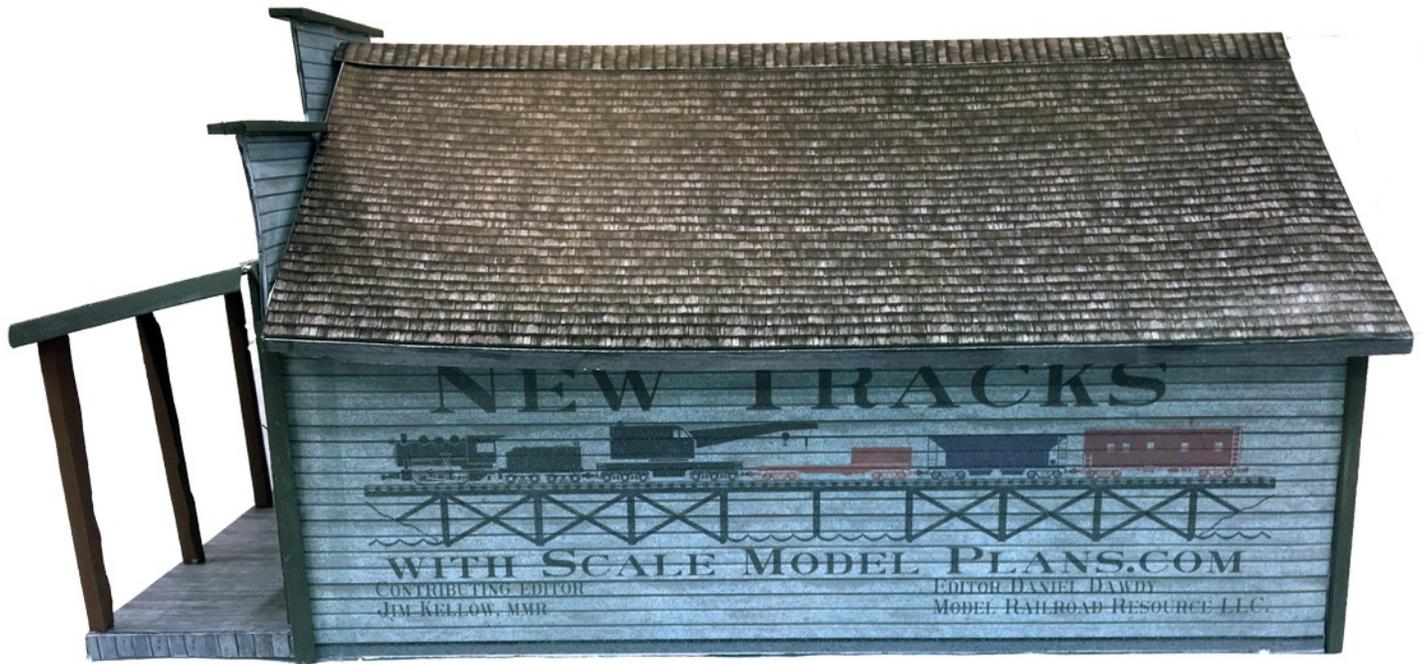
Most of our plans are available in N, HO, OO, O, and Garden scale. It takes a considerable amount of effort to create five different scales. It's not just a case of reducing or multiplying dimensions, but involves making corrections and adjustments based on the dimensions and availability of common scratch building materials and components. It would be a lot simpler to focus just on HO scale, the most popular scale worldwide, but a big part of our motivation is to provide opportunities to a full spectrum of model builders. We each have our reasons for choosing a particular scale to model, so we try to do our part in making that choice equitable. We even have a web based tutorial on print-reducing our plans and cardstock models to Z, TT, and S scale. Also available are importable files for the popular Evan Designs Model Builder program, so if you don't like the colors of the included cardstock versions, you can choose your own.

Our cardstock versions were originally intended as "mock-up" or place holders for the scratch built versions. As time went on, I discovered that more and more people were ordering the plan packages strictly for the cardstock versions, so we endeavored to improve them, even going so far as to re-doing the original versions that we had offered in previous years. I also need to point out that somewhere along the way, I became hooked on cardstock modeling. I now fully understand and appreciate that it is not just about the money. Sure, you save a lot of money by not having to buy materials, windows, doors, etc., but there is an almost un-describable sense of accomplishment in building something out of paper. Some of our cardstock versions require bits of balsa or styrene, (I call them 'hybrids'), but I take particular pride when I can complete a realistic looking model using only paper and paper products. Whenever I take scissors to a sheet of cardstock, I can't help but think back to Captain Kangaroo or The Friendly Giant TV shows, and the various paper crafts they presented to us as kids. Maybe this accounts for some of the appeal - harking back to childhood memories.

People assume that since I manage a scratch build orientated website that I am a 'professional' model builder. I am not. My tag-line could have been, "If I can do it, anyone can!". I was about ten when I got my first model railroad, and about the same age when I started building model airplanes and 1:24 and 1:25 model cars, but up until the formation of ScaleModelPlans.com, I had never done a scratch built structure or cardstock model. My learning curve encompassed trial and error and a few Band-Aids. Much like my first plastic model cars ended up being mostly glue, my very first attempt at scratch building was like an old-west movie set. It looked OK from the front, as long as you didn't look too closely, or in behind.

They say that practice makes perfect. I still consider myself at the 'practicing' level, but the results are getting much better as I gain more skills and learn new tricks. Speaking of tricks, we like to share our accomplishments and have several tutorials on various aspects of model building, as well as a series of video tutorials - all freely viewable on our website tutorials page:
<https://www.scalemodelplans.com/smp/pgs/tutorials.html>.

We try to add one new plan each month, but sometimes things come up and it takes a little longer. Our plan packages are rated in one of three skill levels – basic, moderate, and advanced. This rating system is not an exact science, but it helps in choosing which plans to start with. You'll notice that I used the term 'advanced'



and not 'expert'. I may one day add the "expert" category, if and when I achieve that status myself, but in the meantime, I will continue developing my skills, learning from others, and sharing what I learn along the way.

Jim Kellow: Surprise! Surprise! Surprise! During my discussion with Tom, we discussed his doing a special "New Tracks" structure for this profile. He immediately agreed and you can download the "New Tracks" structure above in S or O Scale for free. Thank you Tom. By the way, I built the model and it was a fun build. The tutorials on the website helped me to avoid mistakes and complete the model.

If I have encouraged you at all to try your hand a cardstock modeling, please send us the Request Form below with your contact information and preferred scale, and we'll send you a complete plan package for the "New Tracks" structure shown here. Also, please feel free to visit www.ScaleModelPlans.com, even if just to look.

Happy modeling! Tom Carson

Request form: <https://www.scalemodelplans.com/contact/NewTracks/NewTracks.html>

Website: <https://www.scalemodelplans.com/>

Tutorials page: <https://www.scalemodelplans.com/smp/pgs/tutorials.html>

After my first Card article was published, I got the following note from Tom I want to share with you. I really appreciate Tom telling me about using his models in conjunction with Evans Design software. I wonder if other Card designer's models have the same capability?

Hi Jim,

I just read your January article on cardstock modeling. Looks good. I just thought I'd let you know that all of our scale plan sets (with the odd exception) include importable templates for the Evan Designs Model Builder

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program, as another option for our customers. The WMF templates, available as a free option with our plans, import directly into Model Builder so the user doesn't need to do any design work. You can see some of our plans, in MB versions, on their gallery pages: <https://www.modeltrainsoftware.com/pages/customer-pictures-of-model-builder-buildings-gallery-1>

We were going to discontinue the MB template option, but soon came to realize how many of our customers use the MB program, so decided to continue including them with our plans/cardstock packages. I guess there are quite a few modelers out there that like the convenience of our pre-designed templates as well as the ability to customize to their tastes.

It is very important to follow the setup tutorial carefully. I think MB defaults to jpeg, so if you don't change the import option to wmf you won't be able to see the templates. The page size is critical as well, or the finished models won't be the correct size. Our Model Builder template files are available free with the purchase of the corresponding PDF Plan package, but must be requested separately. All of our plans, with a few exceptions, have an available MB template file. Because of the nature of cardstock models, the girder bridge for example, does not include a cardstock or MB version. There are some plans that require a combination of wood or styrene and cardstock, such as the coaling tower.

Kindest regards, Tom Carson

E.C. "Stan" Field, aka, Anthony Stevens Weblog

Anthony has another surprise for your modeling enjoyment, so please read on. Anthony, thanks for all your help.



Please go to Anthony's weblog at:
<https://masteranthonystevens.com/miniatures/>

This is where I found the Titanic Deck Chair I built. It makes a great, different model, and was a fun build, plus it was free. Also, Anthony's tips on Card modeling helped me a lot. Now please meet Anthony.

Anthony Stevens' history in the hobby. I was a teenager in the early to middle 60s and grew up with HO scale model trains, slot racing cars, and a hobby shop on every corner. My goodness, how times have changed.

My first layout was a 4'x8' table in the basement with an Athearn Christmas present set. The boxed set included a rubber-band belt-drive GP9, a handful of freight cars, a caboose, a simple "transformer", and an oval of snap track.

Over the next few years, I built several plastic structure kits, added more track and switches, another couple of engines, and a half dozen pieces of rolling stock. I also merged my HO scale slot racing track with the train layout. I had a Revell 4 Trackside Buildings kit, a Revell Sand & Pump House, and a Revell Superior Bakery. Those names might be a flashback for some folks.

How I learned to build. I started building model boats and airplanes out of balsa when I was ten. My favorite aunt got me a wood case Xacto knife set, some glue, and a bag of scrap balsa for my tenth birthday. I still have the wood Xacto case and knives. In the early 60s, I started building 1/25th scale plastic model car kits. From reading model car magazines, I added details like engine wiring and opening doors.

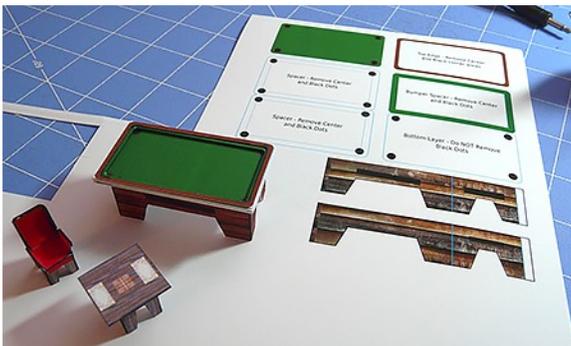
Did I have a mentor or just trial and error. No mentor. I read a lot of magazines and applied techniques that seemed interesting.



Finished pool table kit that is included with Terry's Tavern. Along with some of the bar posters.



Me assembling parts of the kit.



Above: Two shots of Terry's Tavern showing some details.

What scale I model and why that scale? O scale and because...I joined the Navy and went to Vietnam. While I was gone, my mother decided a full-grown military man didn't need any toys, so she gave away all my models and magazines (deep sigh). She meant well.

When I got back, I got married, moved around a lot, and was too busy working and raising a family to get back into models. I figured that would be a retirement thing.

While working in Washington, DC, about 15 years ago, a good friend had a Hi-rail basement layout and got me thinking about a layout of my own once more. But, I had no room for such a massive layout.

I went to a train show and met some fellows working in On30, and immediately fell in love with the idea of small modules that would fit in a car. I hooked up with Kevin Hunter of Berrett Hill Trains who invited me to a module building clinic in his shop. <http://www.berretthill.com>

As part of the demonstration, he built a 2'x4' module that I still have. It has been part of the now-defunct Mad Modules group at several Timonium Great Train Shows in Maryland, and was also at the National Narrow Gauge Convention when it was held in North Carolina back in 2011.

What areas will I help by mentoring? When I saw the price of craftsman kits, I knew I couldn't afford to play that game. Someone pointed me to Clever Models and I tried a couple of their card-stock model kits. That was more up my alley.

Then, I realized that with my computer graphics and photography skills, I should be able to make my own kits. Since then, I've offered a handful of kits for free and have been putting a lot of work into a complex kit with a full interior, called Terry's Tavern.

I have suggestions for card stock modeling tools and techniques on my website and if anyone is interested in creating their own kits, I would be happy to share techniques and mentor them.

Surprise! Surprise! Surprise! A free 20 foot "New Tracks" Card container to download below for free. Thank you Anthony.

Jim Kellow asked if I could provide some special signage for "New Tracks" on one of my 20 foot containers for readers of this article. I am pleased to provide this special signage. To download your free Card model of this 20 ft container please go

to: <https://anthonystevens.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/containernewtracks1.png>.



A few more shots of Terry's Tavern showing some details.



I have included Card Model building tips on my weblog, and believe they will be of help to beginners. I hope you enjoy building this as well as my other models and would appreciate your feedback to me at paulestudios@gmail.com. I hope to develop other unique Card models, and hope you check back periodically to my weblog to see “what is new.”

Thank you again Anthony for your help. If you have questions you believe Anthony can answer please contact him a tpaulestudios@gmail.com.

I am pleased to announce that Anthony has agreed to write a separate construction article on building some of his paper models in a future S Scale Resource magazine. Keep your eye out for it. It will be a great way for you to learn Card skills and techniques Thanks Anthony for doing the article.

Scalescenes



I have heard this company mentioned a lot by U.K. modelers and others on Card building Facebook pages. Based on the comments I have heard, it was a company I wanted to look into. So I emailed the company to see if I could download their products and kits in S and O Scale. They replied: “Thanks for your interest in Scalescenes.com. As long as your printer has the ability scale pages up there is no reason why you can't build any of the kits in 1:64 scale.

Page scaling is usually found in Acrobat Reader's print window (for more information on page scaling click [here](#)). If you enlarge the OO versions up by 118%, then you will end up with 1:64 scale (Just be sure to adjust the recommended card thickness accordingly).

Similarly if you enlarge the OO version up by 176%, then you will end up with O scale. You'll need to roughly double the recommended card thickness which may require you to print some of the base layers twice. Another alternative would be to use foam core board which is usually available in about 4mm and would be much easier to cut out.”

The owner of [Scalescenes](http://Scalescenes.com) is John Wiffen. The website Scalescenes.com says “[John Wiffen](#) started Scalescenes in 2005 and was the pioneer of quality downloadable model railway kits.”

“A life long model railway enthusiast with over 25 years professional graphic design and model making experience, the past ten years have seen John continue to add new, exciting and innovative kits to Scalescenes' already wide product range.”

John has been very forthcoming and responsive to my questions. Thanks John for all your help. Please take a look at their website and see the highly detailed models they offer.

I had a modeler from the Netherlands, profiled below, say he modeled some of the Scalescenes kits to look like models in the Pendon Museum, which are made by the volunteers in England. I have a “*New Tracks*” article about this outstanding model museum coming out in a future issue of *The O Scale Resource*. Do not miss the article about the Pendon Museum. It is an amazing place with exceptional models.

Card Model Mentor Profiles

Take a look at these Card modeler's profiles. You may find a person who can work with to help you improve your Card modeling, and be a mentor on your future projects. Good luck.

Job Weessies

I'm Job Weessies living in the Netherlands.



It started with a railway set in N scale after I was married for a couple of years. I found N scale too small and adopted HO scale. For me model railways must have purpose. So, I became a member of FREMO. Members of FREMO built railway modules to create large layouts on which they operate as close to prototype as possible. From here I became more and more interested in building scenery. When it was not possible for me anymore to go to their meetings, I left FREMO.

Then I decided to build a home-based layout. After I had built a shunting puzzle, I realized that I wasn't satisfied when I had played the game for about 30 minutes. Creating and building a scene gave me more satisfaction. Unfortunately, I have allergic problems, so I couldn't build buildings from plastic card and plastic parts anymore, so common in the railway model world.



From the Dutch Railway Society, I loaned that magnificent book *Cottage Modelling for Pendon* from Chris Pilton about the cottages built for the Pendon Museum. I also met Peter Gentle, a modeller, who also worked for the Pendon Museum on a model railway exhibition in the Netherlands. He encouraged me to start with card modelling. When I visited his stand, he said to me: ‘I want to see some of the railway layouts here. Can you watch my stand? And will you continue slating my roof.’ When I protested he said: ‘Go ahead! This is the only way to learn it.’

I still can build in the way described in the book about those fabulous Pendon models. But I discovered PDF based kits from Scalescenes. This was the starting point for my first English based diorama Bridge street in 1/76 scale. I also created a name for the town were the
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street belongs to. In this way, Northall was born. I used plain paper for this diorama and used some weathering techniques I had learned in the past.

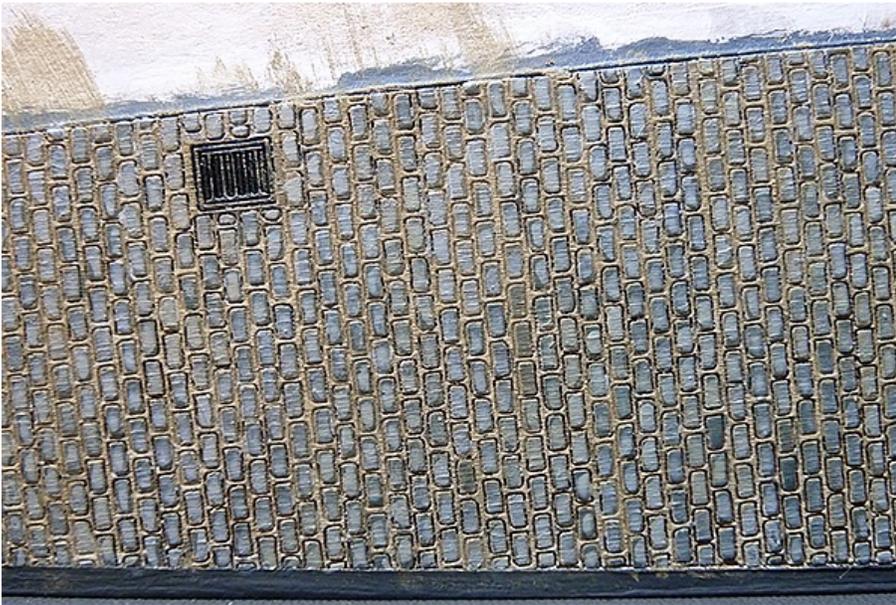
I started to publish my modelling efforts on the RM-web in the card modelling section. From the response I got, I learned a lot. In this way, I perfected my card modelling skills step by step. Internet was also a great source for me. I found the excellent website of David Neat, a maker, a teacher of making models. After reading his articles, I asked him for feedback for one of my buildings. I built the roof using a picture of a real roof and a red



clay roof texture from Wordsworth Models. He said that this was the way to use textures.

I also like to create interiors for my buildings. Shops are excellent for this purpose. You can create a nice shop window with the interior behind it. For the shop window for the Walden Bookshop, I searched for books on the Internet and scaled them down. For the interior of the bookshop, I used textures from Clever Models.

For this model, I used textured art paper to create better brickwork. The shop sign is made on the computer using Publisher. The textures for the shop and the arches are from kits from Scalescenes, my favourites. The pavement I created by laying the stones one by one myself.



After working with art papers for a while, I wanted to go a step further. Because you must print your textures and some supplier's advise matte photo paper, I wanted to try that out. There is a whole range of high quality photo papers available. If you use photo paper and you want a high quality result, a photo inkjet printer is required. I now use photo canvas paper for my brick work. For my roofs I use fine art inkjet Rice paper from Hahnemühle. Caroline Street was the first diorama where I used canvas and rice paper.

Other modelling disciplines give me also a lot of information and inspiration.

I have learned a lot from Modelling Artful Diorama's by Ray Anderson for creating my dioramas. For every diorama, I do a lot of research by reading books or extensively use the Internet.

For my latest project, I made use of kits from Petite Properties. I used my modelling card techniques to create the buildings.

Every diorama is a new challenge for me. I have read a quote that I still use: "It is not the result that counts, but the process." In this way I hope to create better and better dioramas.

If you think I can help you with your modeling please contact me at job.weessies@oscaleresource.com. Thanks.

John Carty

Houses of Cards By John Carty. Photos by the author.



I have to admit that I love to try new techniques and materials. I also must confess to being a bit of a cheapskate, especially since my hobby funds are strictly limited. A couple of years ago, the Division sponsored a paper diorama contest in which I happily participated. The results of my efforts exceeded my expectations. I employed what can only be called "old school" techniques in constructing my diorama. In this article, I will detail how you may build models using cardboard, cardstock, and paper.

The first structure I built for this demonstration is King's Tailor Shop. Start by drawing the shop to scale. Next, lay out the walls and roof on a piece of cardboard. Subtract about a sixteenth of an inch from the length of each of the side walls to compensate for the thickness of the front and back walls. Next draw guide lines on the walls to assist in adding the siding after cutting everything out: the lowest line is for the foundation, the line for the lowest piece of siding is an eighth of an inch higher, while the remaining siding will locate every three thirty-seconds above this line to allow the strips of siding to overlap.

Cut out the windows and doorways before cutting the walls from the sheet of cardboard in order to minimize distortion. Use a sharp knife for this and remember that paper products are extremely abusive to cutting edges. Next, cut one foot thick strips of brick paper (4 bricks high) and glue these to the bottom of each



wall to serve as the foundation. Cut the strips over length to allow for trimming after assembly. During most of the project I used a glue stick. I wish I had been more patient and waited to get white glue as I was not as satisfied with the results.

Next, cut the siding from cardstock using a hobby knife and steel rule, which warps the pieces far less than using scissors. Each strip measures an eighth of an inch wide. After the foundation is in place, add the siding one strip at a time, aligning the top of each strip with the guidelines on the walls. Once again leave the strips longer than needed, trimming will come later. Add trim around the sign area now, leaving a sixteenth inch gap where the overhang will be installed.

After all of the siding has been applied, trim the siding from the window and door openings as well as cutting the

excess from the front and back. Leave the sides overhung until the walls are assembled. A scissors works well for this task. Cut pieces of cardstock about an eighth of an inch larger than the window openings. Mark the window opening on the back of each piece and glue in place to the outside of the wall. After the glue dries, cut diagonally (about 45°) from each corner. Bend the resulting flaps into the window opening to create the window frame and secure with glue. If you are using white glue, be a little generous with the glue so as to soften the cardstock and allow it bend more easily. Cut pieces of cardstock a sixteenth of an inch taller than the door openings and an eighth of an inch wider and install just like the windows, but do not overlap the bottom of the door opening. Cut and fold just like the windows, only on three sides not four.

Brace the side walls by out lining the inside of each with eighth inch thick bass wood using wood glue (I like Elmer's). Apply the glue sparingly to both the wall and the wood. Make sure the strips of wood come right to the edges of each wall except the top of the taller wall, where the roof has to clear; otherwise you will have to file the excess to allow the roof to ride properly. Making sure everything is square; add one side wall to the front wall, using the overhanging siding as a guide. Next add the second side wall and then the rear wall. Add the back of the false front using either wood or white glue. Brace the front and back walls locating the upper brace of the front wall right against the back of the false front.

Trim the overlapping siding and foundation to the front and back walls. Cut strips of cardstock to an eighth of an inch wide and score down the middle. Bend on the scoring and apply to each corner of the building. Trim to the top of the wall and bottom of the siding. Add the roof, securing it with wood glue. Add eighth inch strips of cardstock for fascia boards under the roof. Cut pieces of cardstock larger than the window openings and cut out the windows themselves leaving the mullions and glue in place along with pieces of cardstock for the doors. Affix acetate or styrene behind the windows with tape and add curtains (see side bar for links and ideas). I overlaid paper printed to look like shingles over the roof and added a sign made in Microsoft Word. With a little weathering, King's Tailor Shop is ready for installation on the layout.

The second structure follows a common type of brick house found in Belleville, where I live. One nice feature of this style of house consists of the variety of widths the front and back can be, as well as different heights, materials, and window arrangements. I have seen houses of this type up to three stories tall with store fronts on the ground floor as well as sporting dormers. So feel free to use these drawing as starting points. The early German settlers, as well as a good number of their descendants, used brick which was not baked as hard as we usually expect brick to be. As a result, many older brick buildings in Belleville are painted to help keep out moisture and help preserve the buildings. Among the free brick downloads available, I found one which portrays this type of brick in unpainted condition. I printed this out using a color laser printer.

Again, lay out the walls on a piece of cardboard. Since this model will be installed on a base which will portray the foundation, I left off the foundation from my walls. Cut out the window and door openings using a metal straight edge and a hobby knife. Next, cut out the walls and roofs. Cut brick paper large enough to overlap the tops and sides of each wall. Be smarter than I was, and leave the white border on the paper to make it easier to align measurements. Spread a thin layer of full strength white glue (I like Elmer's Glue All) over the face of each inner wall (the cardboard piece). The layer of glue should be so thin so as to be tacky. Carefully apply the brick paper to the wall, being aware of alignment since the glue will function like contact cement. Smooth out the brick paper with your fingers and allow to dry.



The gabled walls will flank the front and back walls, so trim the paper to the cardboard. A scissors works well for this. Trim the front and back walls only along the top, leaving the ends to cover the ends of the gabled side walls. Placing each wall face down so that the brick paper is against your cutting surface, cut down the middle of each door and window opening and then along the top and bottom. Fold the brick paper back along both sides of each opening, securing with a thin layer of glue applied to cardboard inner wall. Cut pieces of paper (I used white but you can use colored if you like) to fit the bottom of each window opening drawing a line six scale inches from the bottom. Put a thin layer of full strength white glue on the lined side of each piece of paper. Attach the strip to the outside bottom of the window opening along the line with the six inch portion on the outside and wrap the remainder through the window.

Cut small pieces of brick paper with which to make the lintels. Remember that the brick of the lintels runs perpendicular to the brick of the walls. Apply full strength white glue to the lintels and affix to the wall, again folding the paper into the window opening. If you curved the tops of you window openings like I did, you will need to entice the lintels to conform to the curve.

Take a self-adhesive label in the color you desire for your windows, and affix it to the window glazing you intend to use. Measure out the windows you need on the labels and carefully cut just the label. Leave excess material all around the window openings. Using the tip of your knife carefully lift the labels away from the window openings. Cut apart the windows. Center a window into each opening affixing with white glue applied to the wall. Cut pieces of card stock for the doors and glue in place. You may add a transom to the doorway or you can use a piece of label affixed to the door to fill in the space above it.

Outline the front and back inner walls with eighth inch square bass strip wood, securing the bracing with wood glue. Assemble a side wall to the front wall and then add the back wall. After adding the other side wall, square your assembly up before the glue sets. Add bracing to the side walls at the bottom, the middle, and along the gables. Trim the front and back brick paper flush with the side walls. Attach the roof pieces using wood glue, followed by the roofing material of your choice (I used shingle paper) using white glue. Trim the edges after the glue dries. Using the scrap from the original layout of the house, cut out a core for the chimney. Add brick paper and assemble the chimney. After the glue dries, install the chimney on the roof. Cut a piece of cardstock for the top of the chimney and glue in place. Cut fascia boards from cardstock and attach under the eaves using white glue. The white cut edges of the brick walls may be touched up with a colored pencil of a similar color to the brick.

Add curtains lifted from an on-line catalog (see side bar) or shades cut from plain or manila paper to give the impression that people are living in the house.

After some light weathering with powders, your abode is ready to install on your layout.

Industrial Buildings



Using the techniques above, I also built Supigier Canning. One difference appears in the windows, which sport mullions traced with a pen. A second difference may be found in the capping of the walls with a different style of brick. The flat roof follows the common practice of using tape for the rolled roofing and painting it. The various wooden tanks were constructed by scribing card board, gluing it to a core, painting it, and adding paper bands, hatches, and other details. Signage may be easily created using Microsoft Word.

Have fun adding inexpensive and unique structures to your layout using paper.

Obtaining Materials:

I obtain much of the cardboard I use by saving packaging, especially from printed forms. Cardboard used in the packaging of clothing may also be used, as well as cereal boxes and paper tubes. I do not use corrugated cardboard. Brick papers obtained in PDF files may be copied into Word and edited to change the color, allowing the modeling of painted brick. Concrete may be simulated by using various colors of cardstock or even by using colored pencils. A little creativity will reap great rewards with these models. For window treatments such as curtains and drapes I like to use the online catalog of J.C. Penney.

Free Brick paper: <http://www.passingloop.com/?p=3390>

Free brick generator: <http://paperbrick.co.uk/index.php?action=home>

Brick paper generator: <http://www.modeltrainssoftware.com/brickyard.html>

Card kits for model railways (UK co.): <http://www.modelrailwayscenery.com/>

JC Penney (window treatments): <https://www.jcpenney.com/g/curtains-drapes/N-1b0lvh6D1noxaa?redirectTerm=curtains>

If you believe I can help you with your card modeling, please let me know at john.carty@oscaleresource.com



Anke Eckardt

Finally, I want you to meet an Irish Modeler who was recommended to me by a German Modeler. This Irish modeler produces some Card models of actual structures in Ireland. Please meet Anke:

From 1997 to 2012, I worked as a boat builder and furniture maker. I often modelled things I was making using paper or cardboard to help me visualize a project better. My profession also required good technical drawing skills which helped me to design models.

When my son was 5 years old, he was given a Hornby model train set (00 gauge) for Christmas, so I thought it would be fun to make him a tiny Ballydehob, our local village, to go with it. I took photographs of all the buildings, then drew them with ink

Me with a special collection of models I made for a wedding: each table at the reception had one of these models on it with a light inside.

and watercolour. Using Adobe Illustrator, I drew them out as kits, so I could easily build them. This is when I got the idea of selling them as a little gift pack of models of our local town. I then went on to do more and more towns – each pack containing 4 to 5 of the most iconic buildings of each town. My favourite buildings are the old shops and pubs. On the gables and rears of the buildings, I usually put drawings of things of interest about the town – like an old tall ship on the gable of the Quays Bar in Dublin, or the Drombeg stone circle on the rear of one of the houses in Rosscarbery.

That's how [TinyIreland](#) started. As well as the 00 gauge A4 model packs, I also adapt my artwork to suit greeting cards: these make smaller models, the size depending on how it looks best on the card.

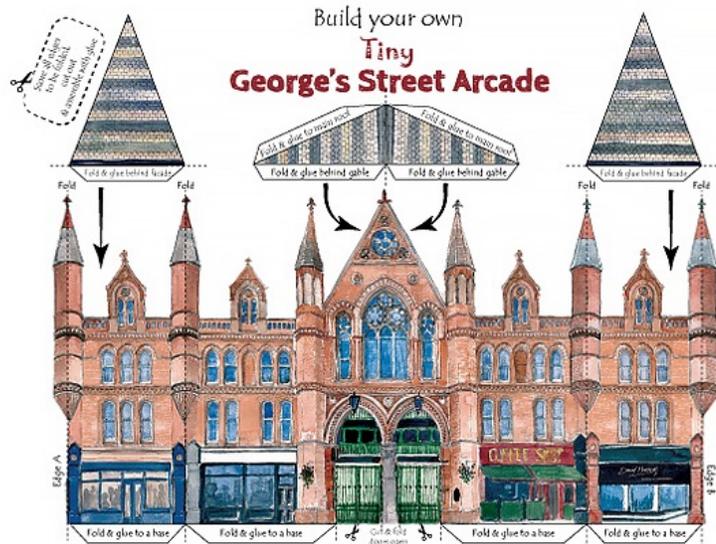
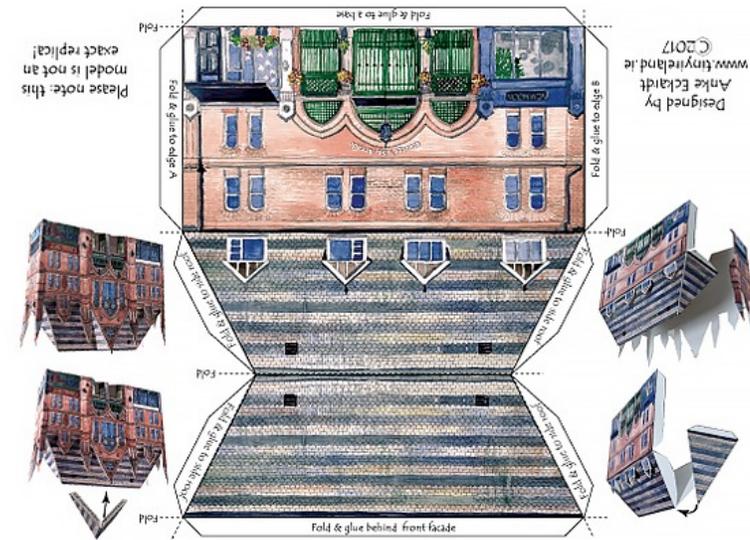
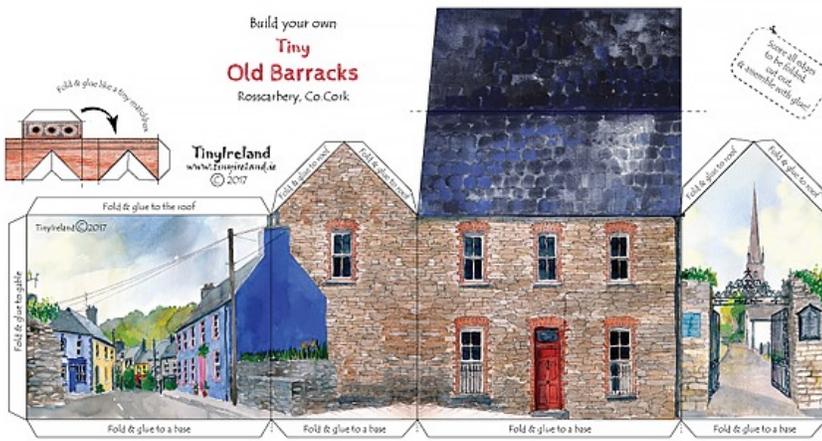
I also do commissions for businesses and individuals, who own or manage interesting buildings. My main market is not really the serious model maker, but more the souvenir hunter.

Upon request, I can get any or all of my buildings printed out to S scale – it may take 4-5 days before I can dispatch, though. The cost would be €4 per A3 sheet 300gsm (most buildings fit onto one sheet, but others, like Bunnratty Castle, requires 6 sheets).

A serious model builder might look for more intricate details and more accurate dimensions – I simplify my models so that even people who are not used to making models can easily make them. Having said that, I do think that my models form a great starting point for someone who would like to introduce buildings to his/her model railway landscape – they can be made more elaborate by the modeler.

The models I design for greeting cards have to look good on the card as well as when they are assembled – this means I have to fit the kit to suit the space available on the card. See Tiny George's Street Arcade (the picture shows both front and rear of the card). I can also get these printed out to any scale desired.

Not all my kits are on my [website](#) – I have made many special orders for shops and businesses on commission, which tend to be available only from them.



All my A4 kits make separate, detached buildings, see picture of The Barracks of Rosscarbery. The scenery is often drawn onto gables or rears of buildings – I do this to give people something to discover and think about while they are making the models – but also to make the kits look attractive in 2D, before cutting out and assembling.

For some towns, I choose buildings which are actually next to each other in reality, while for others, I choose a collection of buildings from all over the town. My Tiny Galway, for instance has five buildings from Quay Street in it. Tiny Dublin, on the other hand, has five buildings from all over the city: Trinity, Temple Bar, Quays Bar, Bailey and The Olympia Theatre.

The models in my A4 kits are as close as possible to 00 scale which is 1:76, so just a little smaller than S scale - but not much.

My A5 model kits are much smaller - they are in greeting card format, so I make them to the size that looks good on the card.

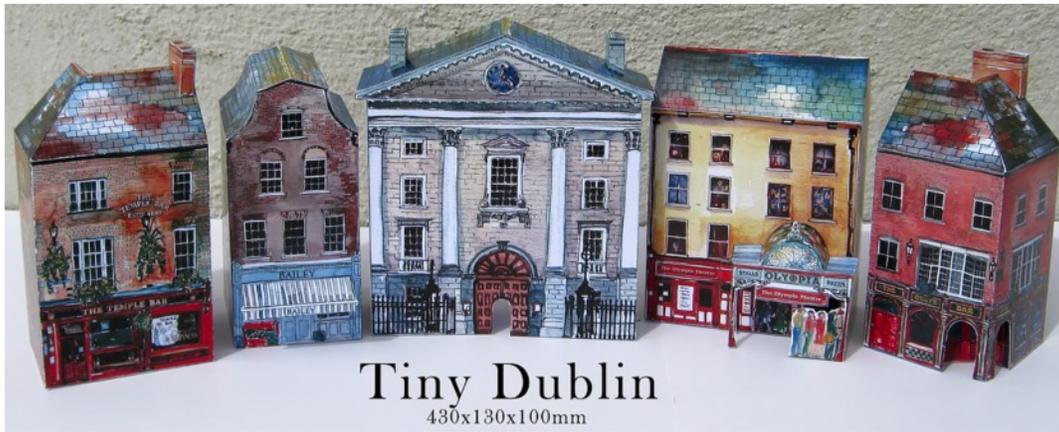
If you would like my kits in a special scale, I can get them resized and printed for you - the cost would be the same as the A4 - €15 per set of 4 or 5 models (depending on the town).

If you think I can help you in your Card modeling, please contact me at anke.eckardt@oscaleresource.com. Anke has also agreed to write a separate article for *The S Scale Resource* magazine on a specific project. She has recently started using the Evans Design software for the first time in her modeling. I really appreciate her agreeing to do this and look forward to reading about her project.

I hope you have enjoyed this Card “New Tracks” article and take advantage of all the SURPRISES and products offered by the

manufacturers profiled, plus offers to help you with your modeling offered by the mentors profiled. Time for me to get back to my workbench as projects are piling up again. Thanks for reading this far, and good luck with your model building.

Barracks of Rosscarbery



Tiny Dublin
430x130x100mm



Building An Old Rex Kit

By Glenn Guerra



This is what you generally get in an old craftsman type of kit. This particular kit will make a 50 ft single door outside braced box car. These cars ran from the 1920's to the late 1960's. In this article, I will talk about what is good here, what is not so good, and what we can do with this.

I like to build kits and when I go to the shows I am always looking to see what kits may be around. Building kits is fun and I would recommend to anybody That they build some. Even if you don't really like building kits, there are some good reasons you should consider it.

For a manufacturer to produce a ready to run model, he will need to make a large investment in engineering, tooling, and manufacturing. Because of this, the variety of ready to run cars will always be limited. To get variety in your car fleet, you will need to build some kits. Kit manufacturers usually pick prototypes that are not already available as ready to run models. It only takes a few kit built cars to make your trains look different.

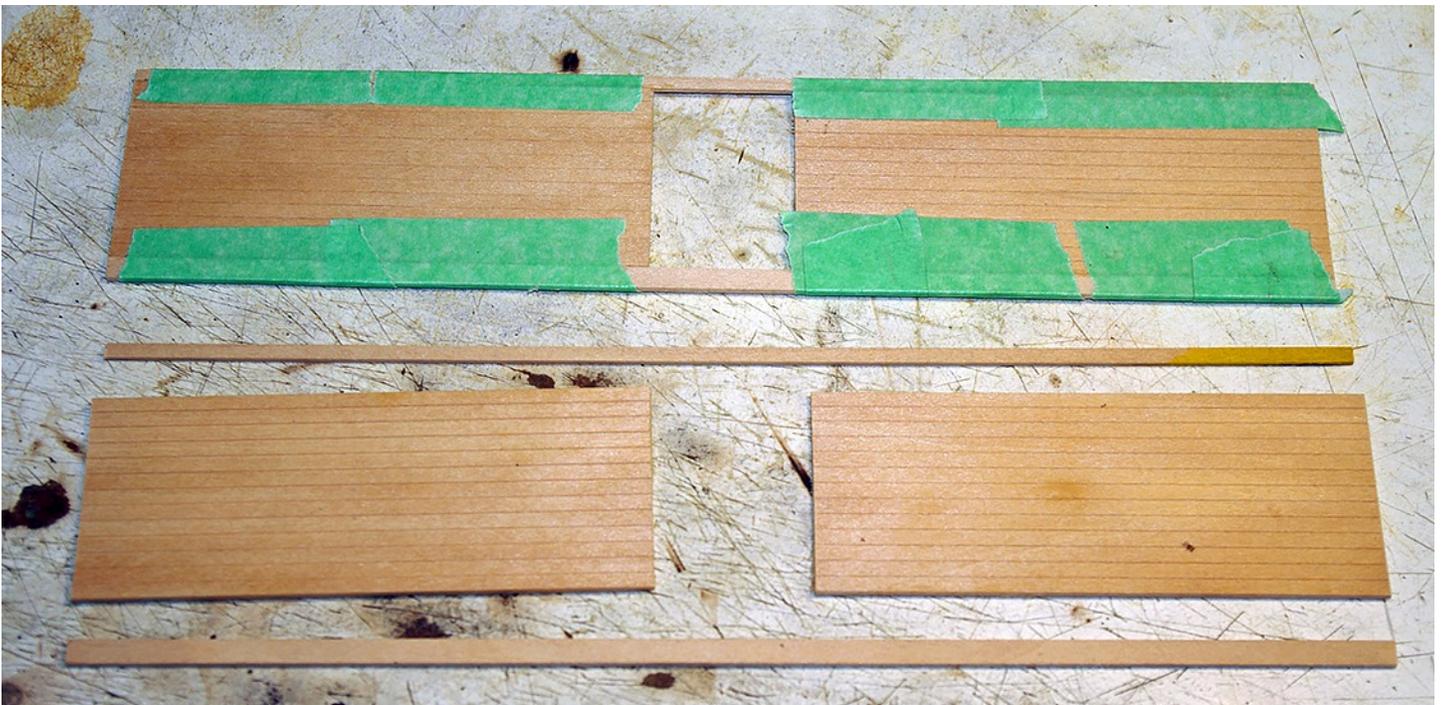
Developing modeling skills is an on going quest. Kits are a great way to develop your skills and try new ones. With most any kit, there is the desire to add more detail or modify the kit. When you do this, you are developing the same skills you would need for scratch building. There is good practice in planning what you want to do and executing the plan. It doesn't always turn out the way you want, but the dollar investment is low. The next one will be better.

With all that being said, let's take a look at a kit I am building. This is an old Rex wood kit. These kits are a lot of fun to build and I couldn't resist the temptation to build one again. These old kits were great for their day, but lack some details by today's standards. We have access details and materials that may not have been in the kit. When I look at a kit, I am thinking, "what do I have to start with and what can I do with this?"

What you have to start with is the basic engineering and forming of the major components of the car. In this kit, the sides, roof, and floor are all pre cut. This saves a lot of time. The scribed siding is in the kit, and the roof is milled to the correct profile. The bracing on the side is a “Z” brace that is milled wood. These parts would take a lot of time to scratch build. The ends and doors were white metal castings and these will also save some time. On closer examination, I found the parts were lead castings with marginal detail. I ended up scratch building new ends which we will get into later. I was able to use the doors.

This may be a good time to bring up a point about the quality of the parts in a kit. You need to take a step back and ask yourself, “what am I building this model for?”. If you are building a model for a contest, poor quality parts would be a concern. Taking close up photos of your model on your layout will also show poor detail. If you are building a model for the layout, does it look good at arms length? I look at this kit as one of those. It’s a distinctive car that will look good in the train. I will do what I can with what is here, and not lose any sleep over it.

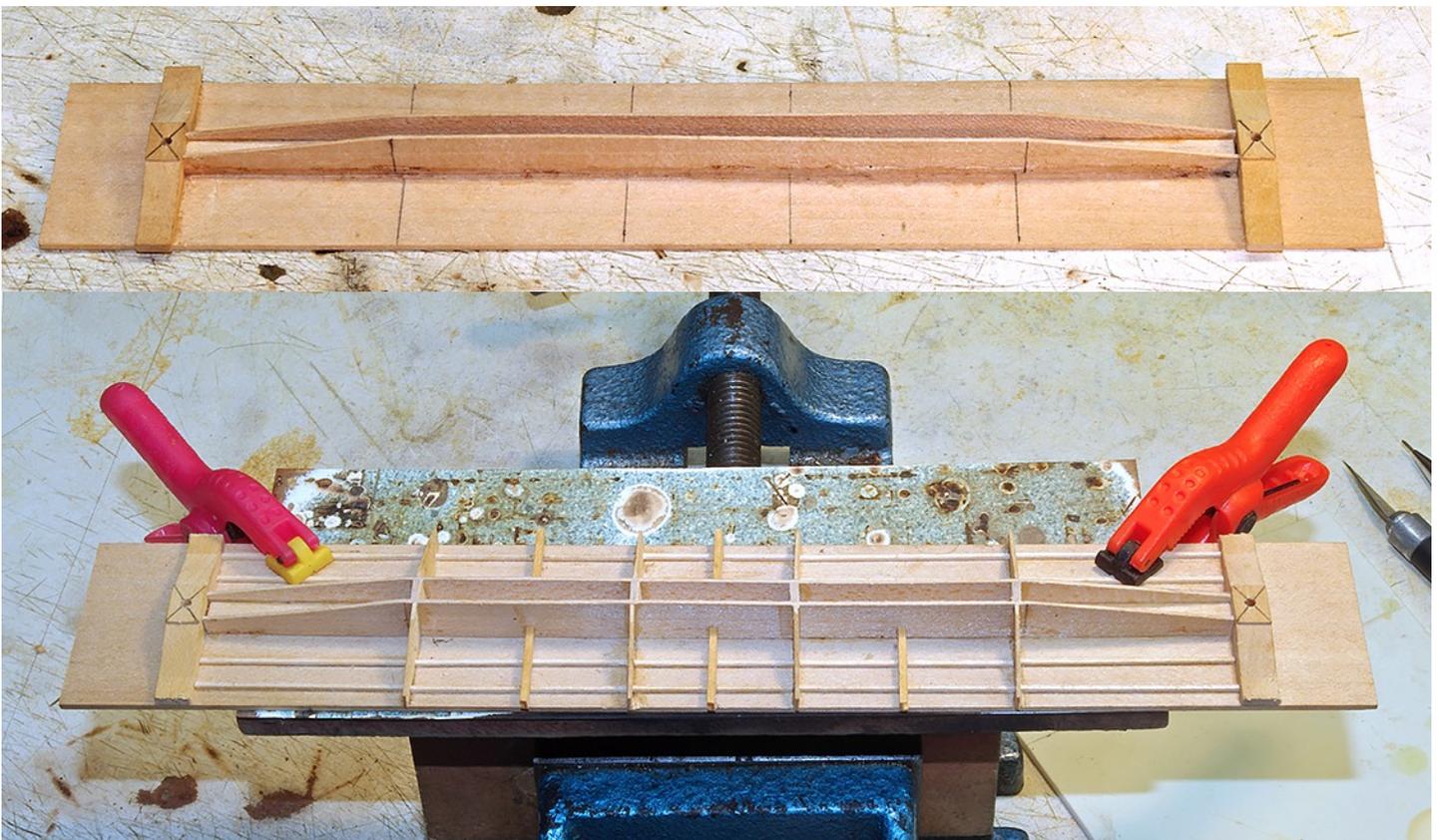
Now that we have covered all of that, let’ see what we can do with this kit. In this article, I will cover the basic assembly. In a later article, I will get into the painting process.



The sides of this kit are typical of these old wood kits. The top wall plate and side sill are separate pieces that are glued to the top and bottom of the scribed siding. I used yellow carpenter glue to glue these together. The masking tape worked well for holding the parts until the glue dried. When I saw this in the kit, I started thinking about the final painting and detailing. The sill and plate are steel, while the siding is wood. I wanted the steel parts to be smooth so I would seal them later. The side sill should also have some rivet detail on it. This was a detail that was not possible when this kit was made, but we can do it today. I thought of two ways to do it. In one method, I would make the sill and plate out of thin styrene with rivets punched in. The thin styrene would be laminated to the wood sill and plate. This started to present problems with the final thickness of the part relative to the scribed siding and the compatibility of glue. I have not had a lot of good luck gluing styrene and wood together. For details I do it, but for a structural joint like this I was skeptical. What I settled on was that I would put the sides together like this and seal the wood on the top plate and side sill later. The rivets would be applied with 3D decals. By sealing the parts, I should get a different look to the paint on the finished model.

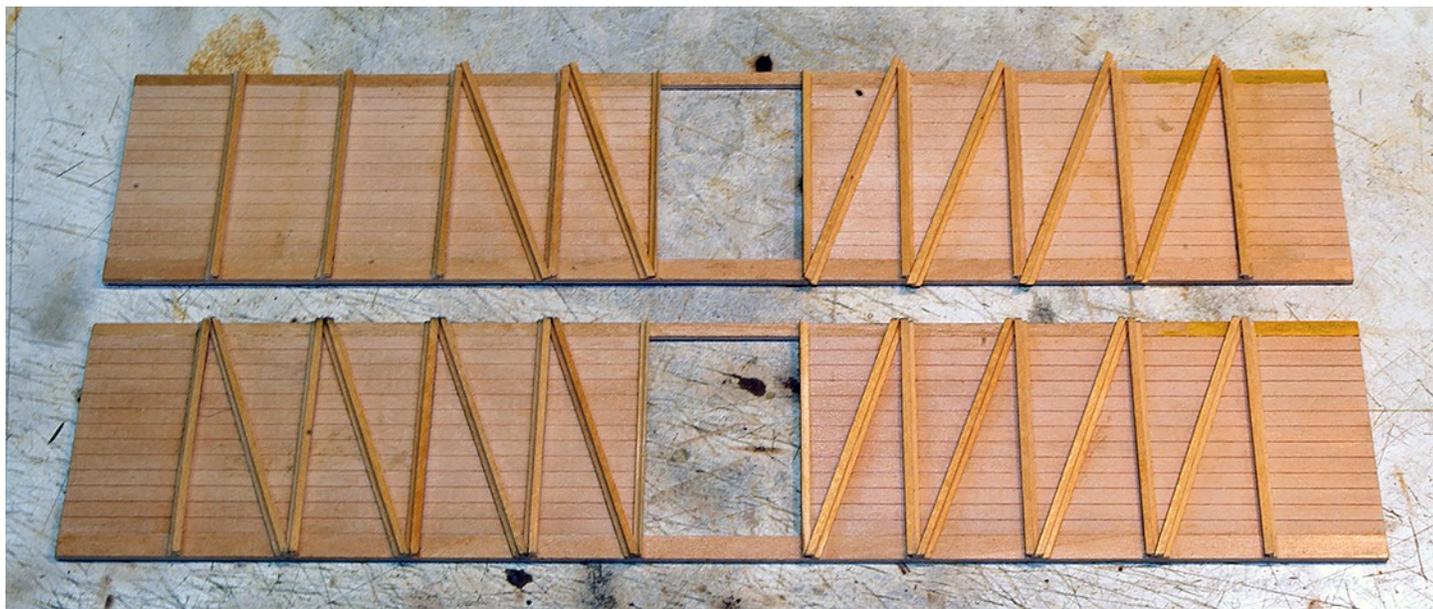


I have not been able to find a sanding sealer I like lately, so I have been using a brushing Lacquer. The brushing Lacquer has thinners that slow down the drying time so you can brush it on. It is thick, and I do thin it for spraying. For this model, I thinned it a little and brushed it on the parts. When it was lightly set, I sanded it with 320 grit paper and applied another coat. I continued this until I got a good finish. The strips are the “Z” bracing for the sides. I considered doing them in styrene, but the wood ones were more delicate and looked better.

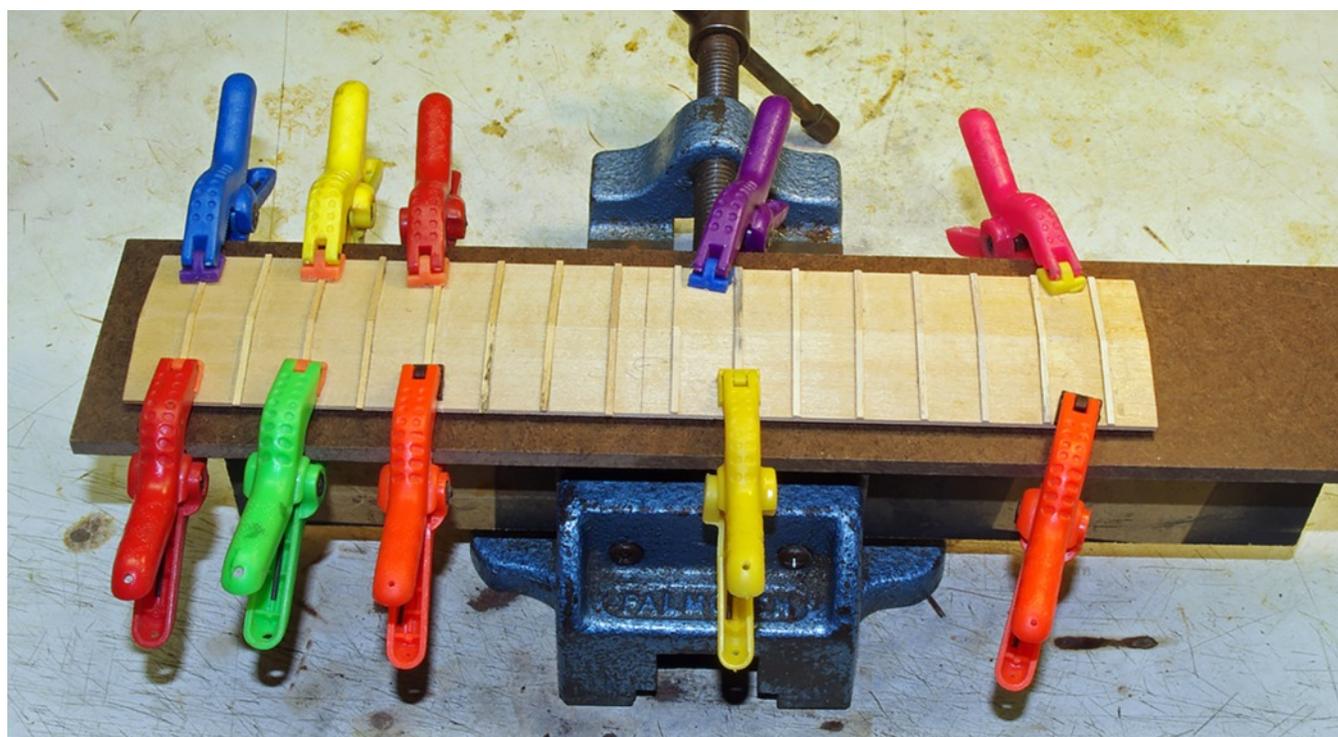


These two photos above show building up the underframe. Many of the instructions in these old kits have you build the body first. I like to build the underframe like this and gently sand it flush for the siding. This was something I considered doing in styrene, but again, decided to stick with the wood kit parts.

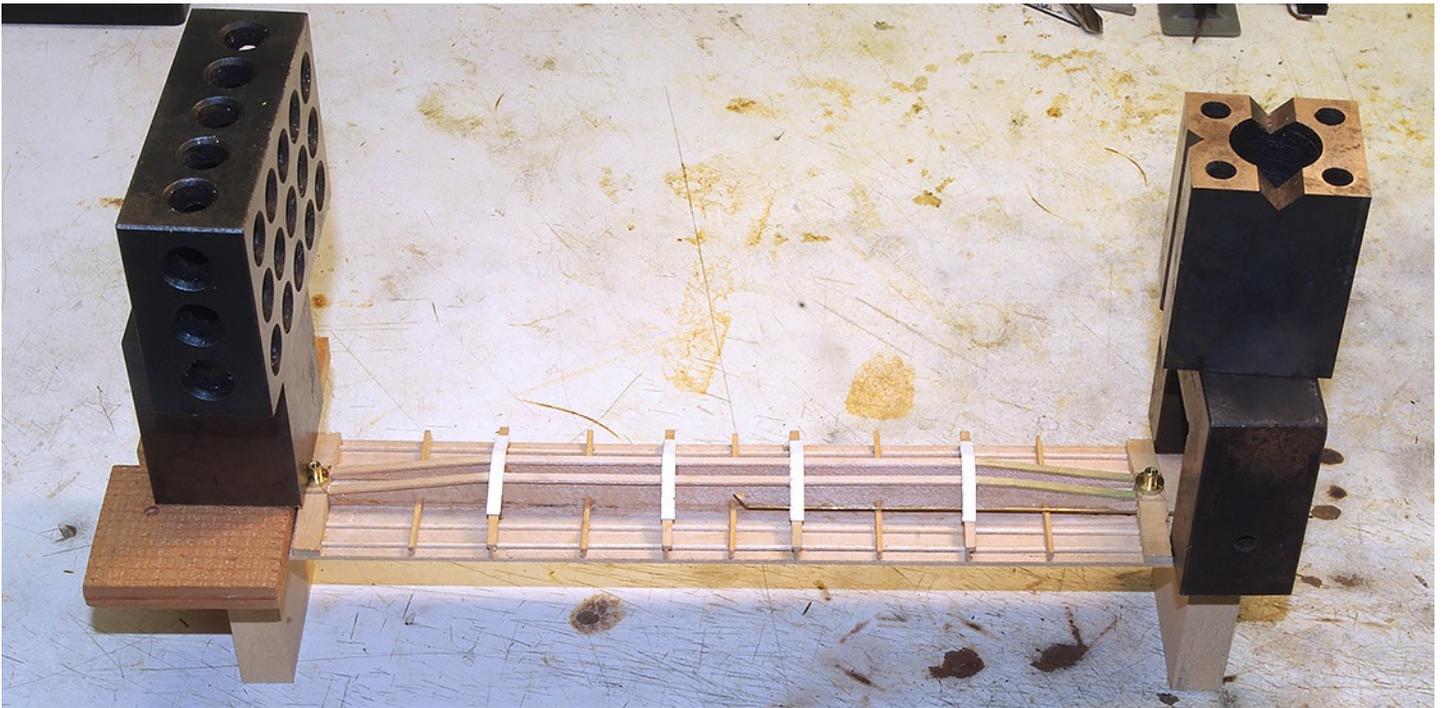
I thought this part of the car would be painted with a flat black. Who cares if the finish was not glossy smooth. One thing I did do was add the stringers with some scrap wood. The instructions showed the cross bearers being full depth as modeled here. I looked at some information on the Great Northern version of this car, and I am not sure this is correct, but it will have to do.



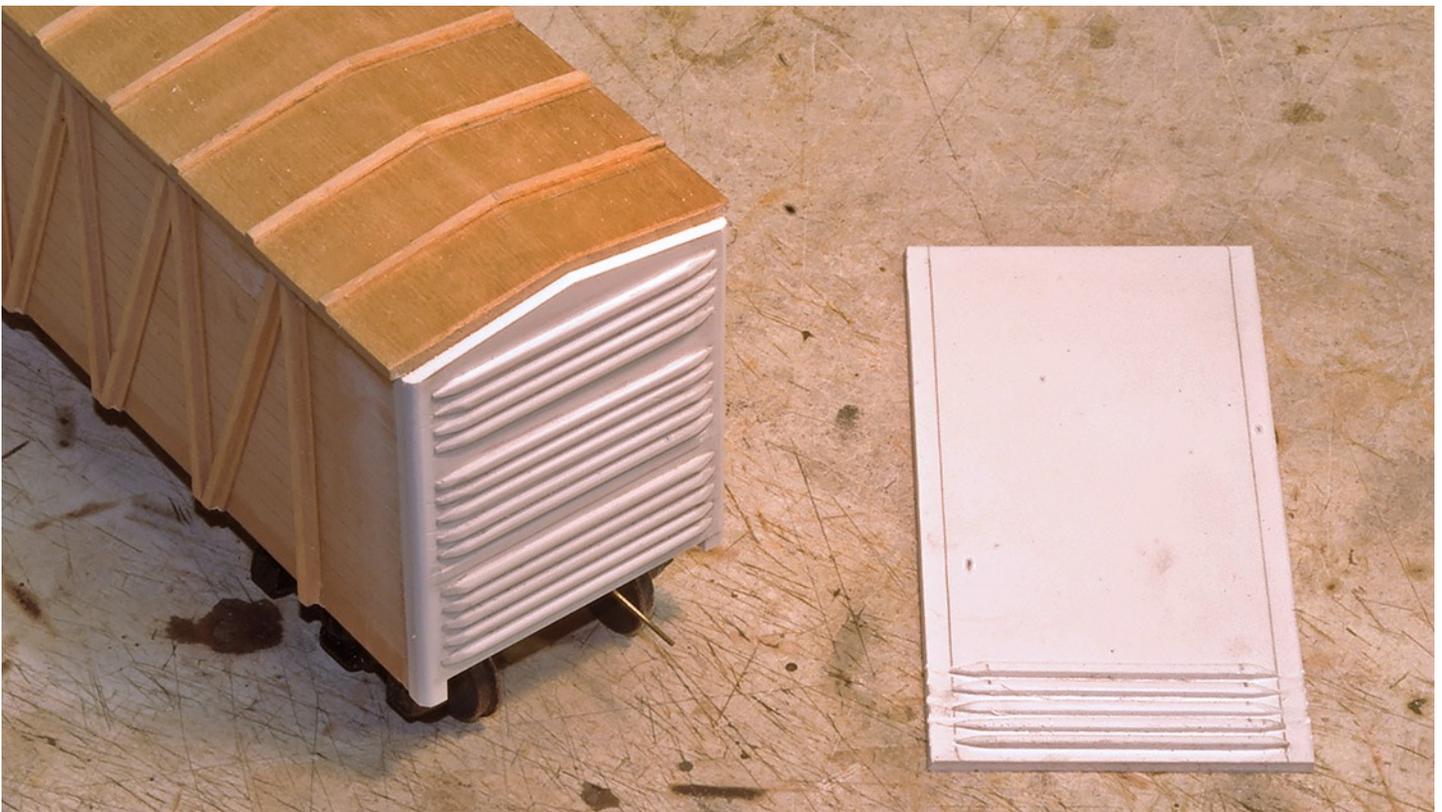
I built the sides like this. The top plate and side sill were brushed with a few coats of brushing Lacquer and sanded smooth. I left the “Z” bracing long and sanded it flush. The kit instructions would have you do this after the car body was assembled. I like this arrangement better as it is easier to work on the sides like this.



The covers for the roof seams were added next. The roof was sealed with brushing Lacquer and sanded smooth. I worked from a center line instead of an edge. That way, I would be sure the ends were the same. On the prototype, these were all galvanized steel panels. At each seam there was a board nailed to the roof, and the panels with turned up edges were installed between the boards. A galvanized steel clip was fitted over the board and turned up edges. All the edges interlocked so water could not get in. I wanted this to be smooth since that is how it would have looked.

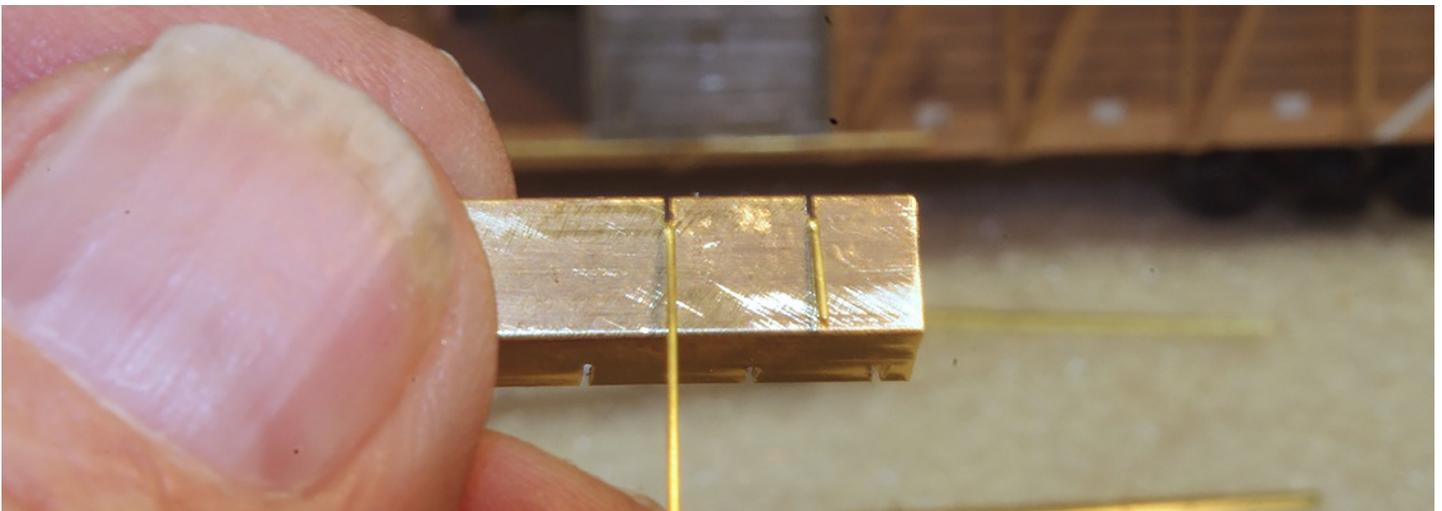
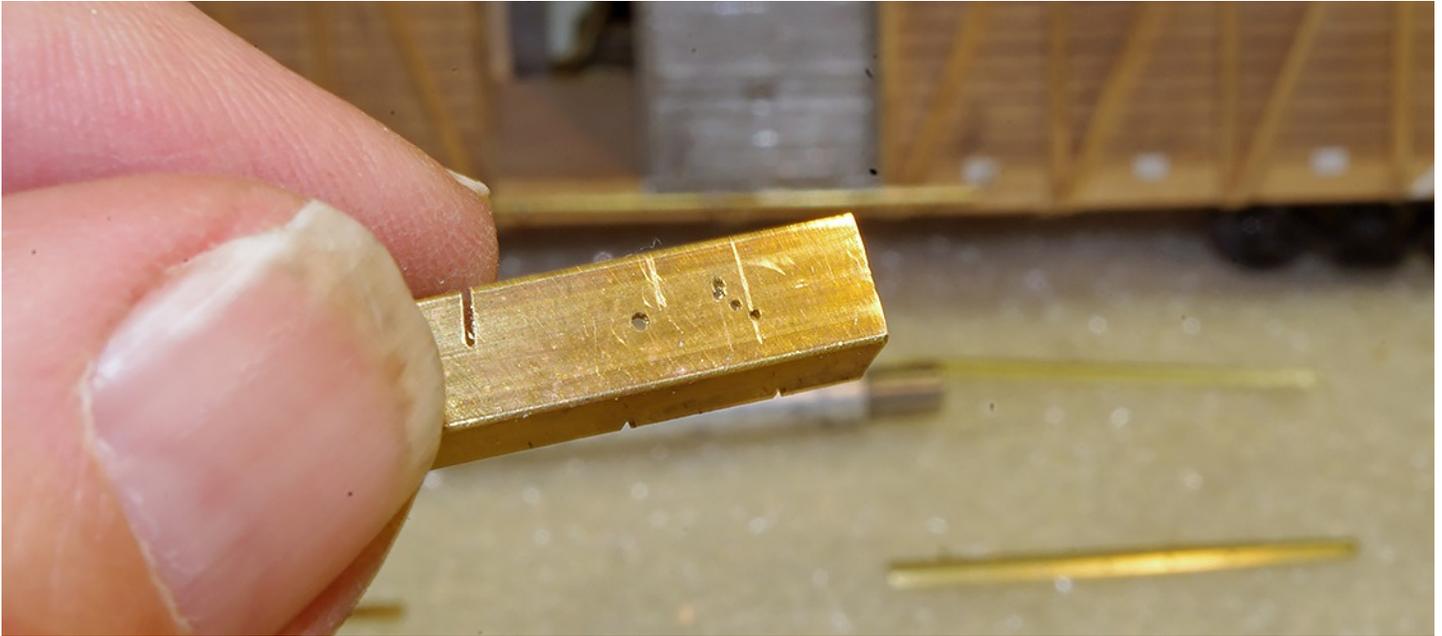


The end wood blocks that came with the kit were made of hard pine, and over the years, had changed dimension. They are under the blocks on the left as spacers. I made some new end blocks out of some ½ inch fine particle board. I glued them with carpenter glue and put weights on them as shown. Notice the brass center bearings. Before I glued the ends on, I checked the coupler height with an NASG gauge and found I need a shim between the trucks and car body. I turned the center bearings on the lathe and tapped them for a 2-56 screw. You could use a washer and wood screw as well, and it would work fine. I added some straps across the cross bearers with some paper. This was a little something that was not in the kit.

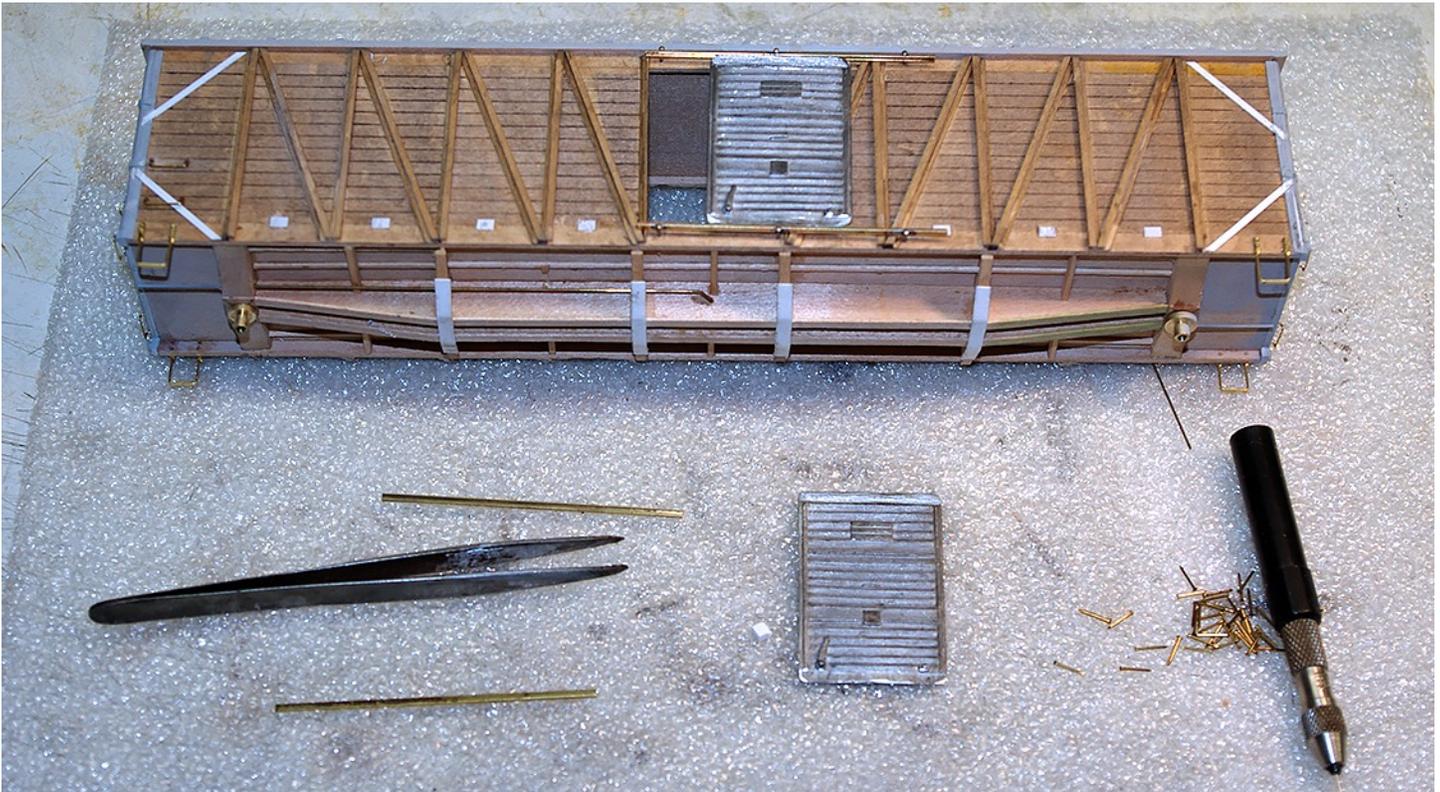


As I mentioned earlier, the ends of the car were a disappointment, so I scratch built some. This was new to me and I fretted about this for a few days.

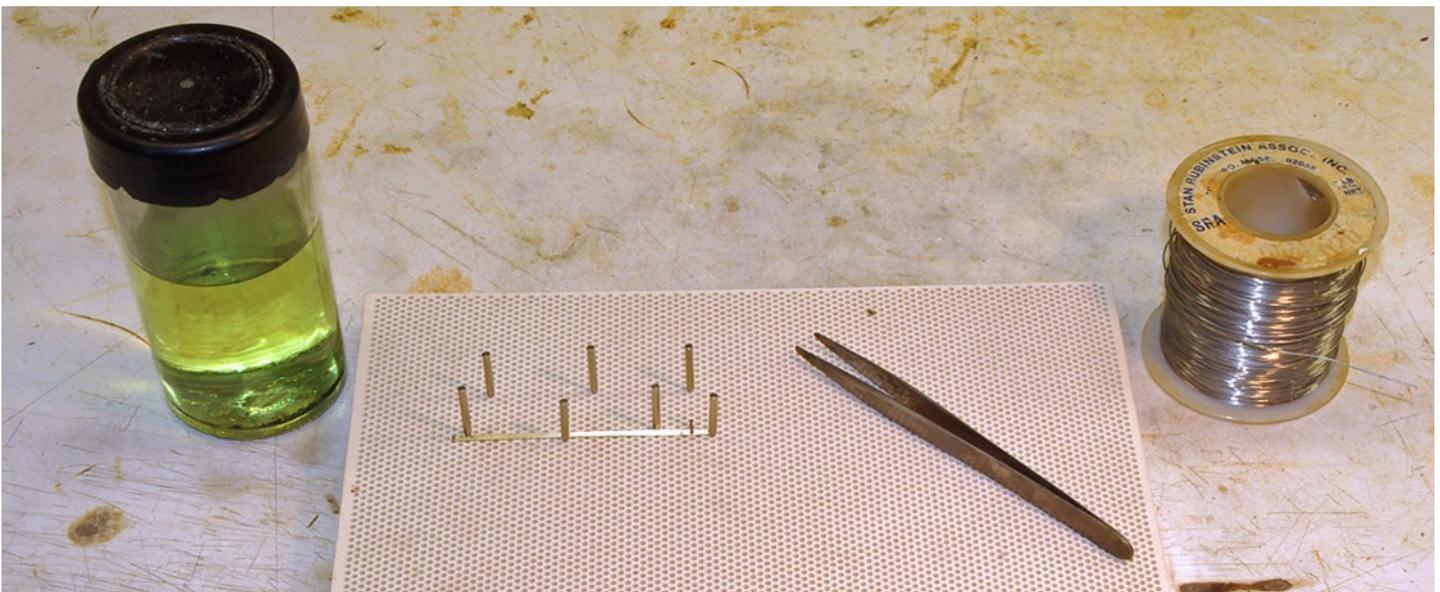
Finally, one day I just sat down and got going. The layout was not difficult, and you can see some of my layout lines. Shaping the ribs was a bit of a problem. I filed the point on the ends and it was tricky to get them the same. This was again a place where I asked myself what the final outcome would be. If you look real close, they vary a lot, however, at quick glance, they look fine. This actually added some features that were not on the original. These ends wrapped around the corners of the car, and I simulated that with a piece of .01 X .06 styrene. After gluing the ends on with Pliobond, I filed the edges flush and rounded the corner.



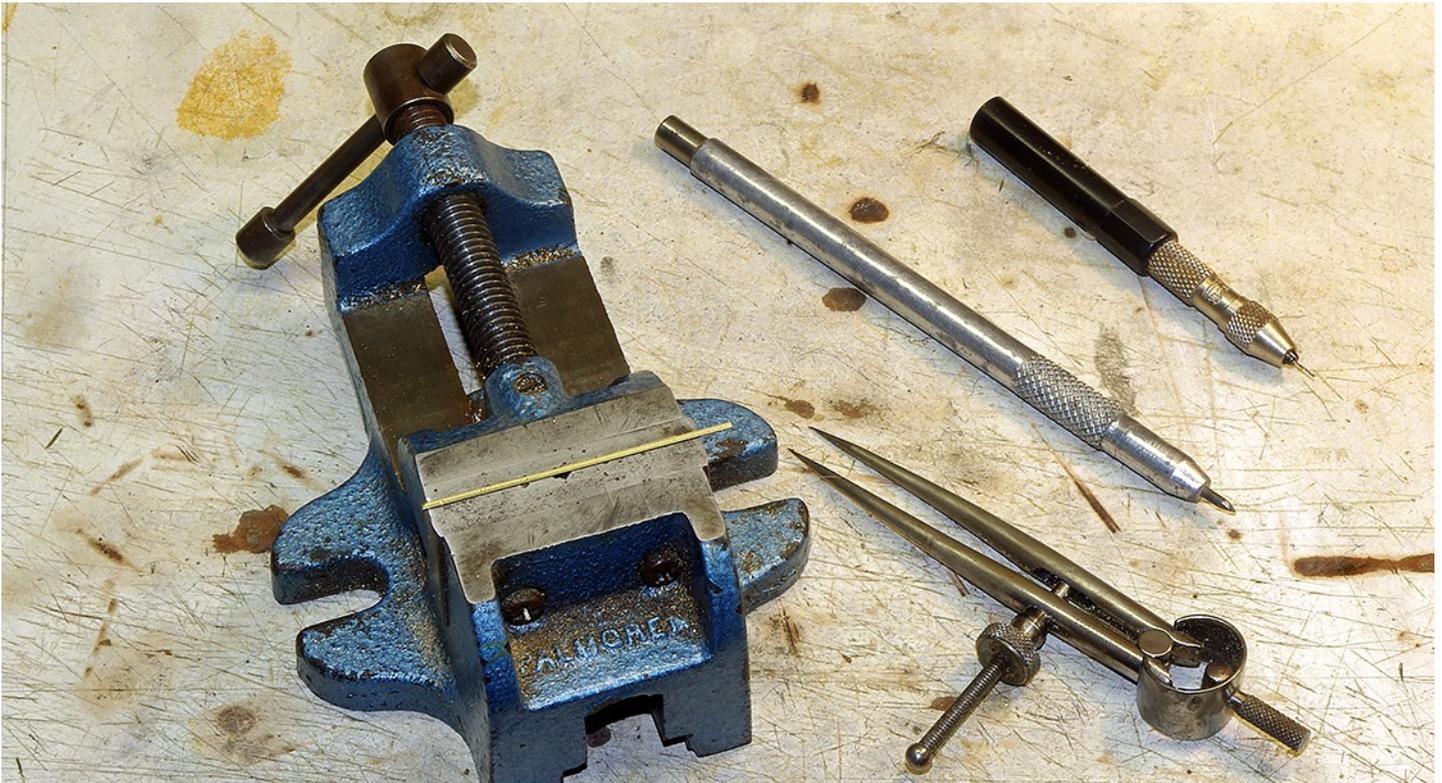
Time to make some grab irons. The ones that came with the kit were formed nice, but were .02 in diameter. That works out to 1-¼ in on the prototype which is a bit much. They should be around ¾ in or .012 in in S Scale. I had some .015 in diameter wire and used that. Laying around the workbench I have some scraps of brass that I use for bending fixtures. In the top photo, I drilled a hole the correct distance from the edge of the brass. Then I bent one end of the brass wire and inserted that into the hole. I bent the other end over the edge and they all come out the same. The ones on this car were all drop type grab irons. To make those, cut two slots in the brass as shown in the bottom photo. Put your grab iron in the slots and hold it tight with some pliers. Then bend it over as shown. You will get uniform drops. They will need some tune up, but they will be the same.



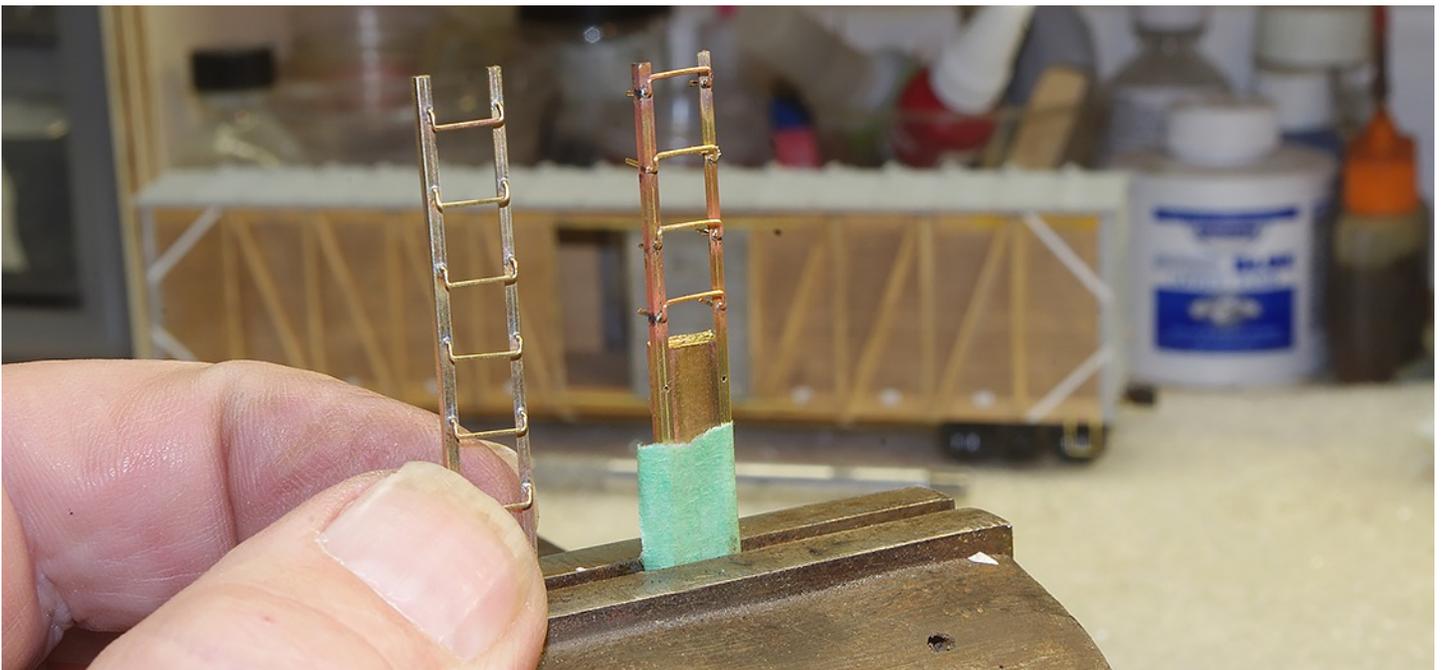
Time to deal with the doors. The kit had wood door tracks which was common in the era that these kits were made in. I dug through my brass supply and found some small brass channel. This stuff is getting hard to find, but people like Des Plaines Hobbies still carry these kinds of things. On the prototype, the bottom track was a bar and it rested on stand off supports from the car side. The original wood track would not capture this look. The next thing was the stand offs. I could see a lot of work here and the door would not work. The brass channel would give a similar look and allow the door to operate. Notice the styrene diagonal braces and gussets. These were thinner than the wood pieces, and I was able to jiggle the styrene at the ends like the prototype. In details like this, styrene does work well with wood.



To attach the door track channel to the car side, I decided to use some brass pins. Making the standoffs seemed like a lot of work, and with the other compromises in the car, not worth the effort. Again, step back and think about what the objective is, don't drive yourself nuts over this. At the Chicago O Scale show in March Rod Miller, a custom builder from California, gave me this ceramic soldering fixture plate. This is the first time I used it and it has some good points. I am looking forward to messing with this more. It works by placing pins in the holes to hold things in place. Being ceramic, you just solder to your parts with no damage to the fixture.



These cars had ladders on the corners and the ends. The ones that came with the kit were typical of the day and were stamped. This is a detail that shows, and I thought we needed something better. I did not have any scrap ones around that would fit. The prototype also had drop grabs on these ladders and that would also show on the model. At this point, I could see I was going to have to make them. I found some .04 brass angle in my brass supply and went to work. This was another project that I was dreading and putting off. When it got to this point, I had to make up my mind. One last look at the stamped ones convinced me I needed to make some. I just needed to get started. Once I got into it, it was fun and I worked straight through on them. The angle is in the vice. The first thing was to scribe a center line. Then I marked a starting hole with the carbide scribe and pushed hard to act like a center punch. With the dividers, I marked off the next hole and marked it with the scribe and so on. Then I drilled the holes with the pin vise.



To solder the grab irons to the ladder sides, I clamped them in the vise as shown on the right. (See image on the previous page.) There is a piece of brass that the two sides are taped to. I then clamped it in the vise. I used my resistance soldering unit and clamped the ground to the vise instead of the delicate part. The ladder on the left is one that is nearly complete. It needs trimming and tweaking to get all the grab irons to line up better.



Here is what it looks like so far. I think the ladders will be worth the effort and the ends don't look to bad. I put some brown acrylic paint on the sides because I want some of the weathered wood to show through the final paint. The doors open, and I think that will be a nice detail to have a door open in the train. I need to do the brake rigging under the car, and I want to put a scribed floor on the inside since the doors will be open. I also want to put some of the 3D rivet detail on. That will be a nice detail for not a lot of effort and it will show.

There are some more details I want to do yet and then paint. I have been using the True Color Lacquer lately and like how it works, but it may not do what I want to do. I will get into that in the next article.

I think it will be an acceptable model for a layout car. It is an old technology kit, but with a few modern technology parts, it will look nice when finished. You certainly can't find a ready to run one. As I said in the beginning, I like to build kits and this is fun for me. If your layout is coming along, take a break and build a few car kits. You will start to see a difference on your layout. See you next issue with the painting adventure.

Sudimak's Service Station

Text & Photos by Jim Kindraka with input and historical data from John Henning of NOSS & Dick Karnes

This magazine's cover photo, "Sudimak's Service Station", is a structure built as a tribute to S Scale modeler Jack Sudimak after he passed away in October, 2012. Jack was the co-founder of the Northern Ohio S Scalers (NOSS) and a lifelong resident of Medina, Ohio. Early in his working life, Jack ran the Highland Court Shell Service Station in Medina, and his great passions were collecting trains, vehicles and being a friend and mentor to everyone he met.



Following Jack's passing, Bill Hanslik, Jr. wanted to honor Jack's selfless work for all the S Scale folks in northeast Ohio. Bill created and built this service station model as a tribute and presented it to Jack's wife, Sharron, in 2017. It follows no specific prototype and employs both kit bashing and scratch building techniques. Sharp-eyed readers will see references to early S Scale on some of the structure's hand painted and hand lettered signs. Here are four other photos of the structure highlighting the scratch built "Shell" sign, as well as, some of the custom lettering and detail Bill put into his tribute.



The connection of Jack's family to S Scale runs even deeper than the simple reference to CD Models on the building. Jack was the son of John Sudimak, one of S Scale's early champions. John ran S&P Distributing, the company that manufactured the Rex Engineering steam locomotives, plus the gondola and flat car models in S Scale.

The history actually starts in the 1950's with a gentleman named T. Bert Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter was an engineer and owned his own business in the Cleveland area, Rex Engineering Co. That business specialized in commercial tool design and model development. The locomotive kits were a sideline to his firm's regular work.

When Bert suffered a stroke in 1961, his friends John Sudimak and Howard Phillips took over the completion of two new locomotive projects, the Rex 0-6-0 and 2-6-0. John and Howard eventually bought the business and, using their initials, ran it as "S&P Distributors". Bert continued as a consultant to S&P until passing away in the mid-1960's. John Sudimak ran Rex/S&P from that time until his passing in 1985. Then Jack took over and ran the business with fellow S Scale modeler Bob Yankhe as his partner until selling it all to Terry Putt in 1996.

Sharron Sudimak and the Northern Ohio S Scalers annually sponsor a one-day gathering at the Sudimak layout each Fall. The Sudimak's Service Station model is always on display at those gatherings.

WHAT'S ON YOUR WORKBENCH?

This series shows our readers what other modelers are working on, and we need your help to make it successful. All that's needed is a simple snapshot of what your workbench looks like and the project on it. Send us a picture or two along with a short description of what you are working on so we can share it here. If it's a project under construction, send it in. Repair job, send it in. Completed project, send it in. Send your pictures and descriptions to daniel@modelrailroadresource.com

Walkways...

By Jim Kindraka

Supporting exterior walkways on industrial equipment and railroad cars has always been a challenge. The supports need to be strong and rigid enough to hold the walkway material and not be fragile in everyday use, but if they are made too large, they begin to look oversize and rather “clunky” on the model. Small brass angle stock has always been the best from my point of view, but finding an efficient way to mount it is the challenge.

I've been working on some coil car models which use a walkway along each side. Plano makes a material I can use for a walkway, but it is thin; and the car needs to provide strong support and attachments so it does not tear away during inevitable handling on layout visits. It appears 3D technology can once again be a great help.

My friend Scott MacKenzie was able to incorporate “L” shaped slots in a coil car frame he drew for me.

I measured K&S 1/16th inch angle stock. Having an “L” shaped slot 1.65 mm x 1.65 mm that has a 0.42 mm opening was possible. Scott programmed the slots to be 8 mm deep to give the angle stock a solid attachment to the car frame.

Photo 1 shows the final part with the “L” slots incorporated in the program. The white Evergreen styrene angle pieces were just plugged into the slots to test “form & fit”.

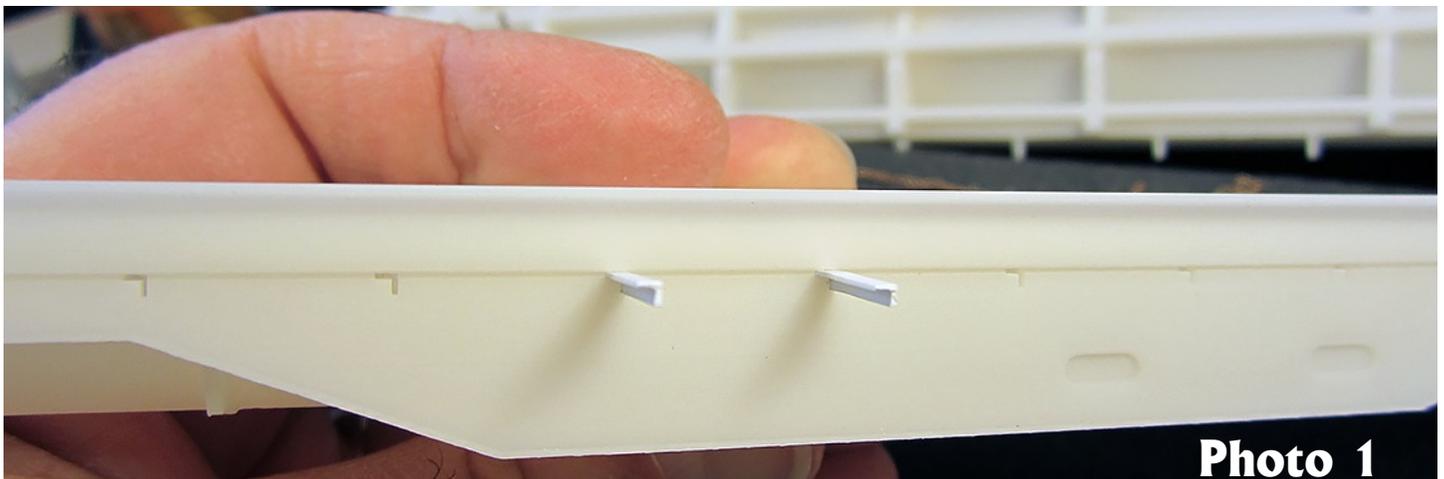


Photo 1

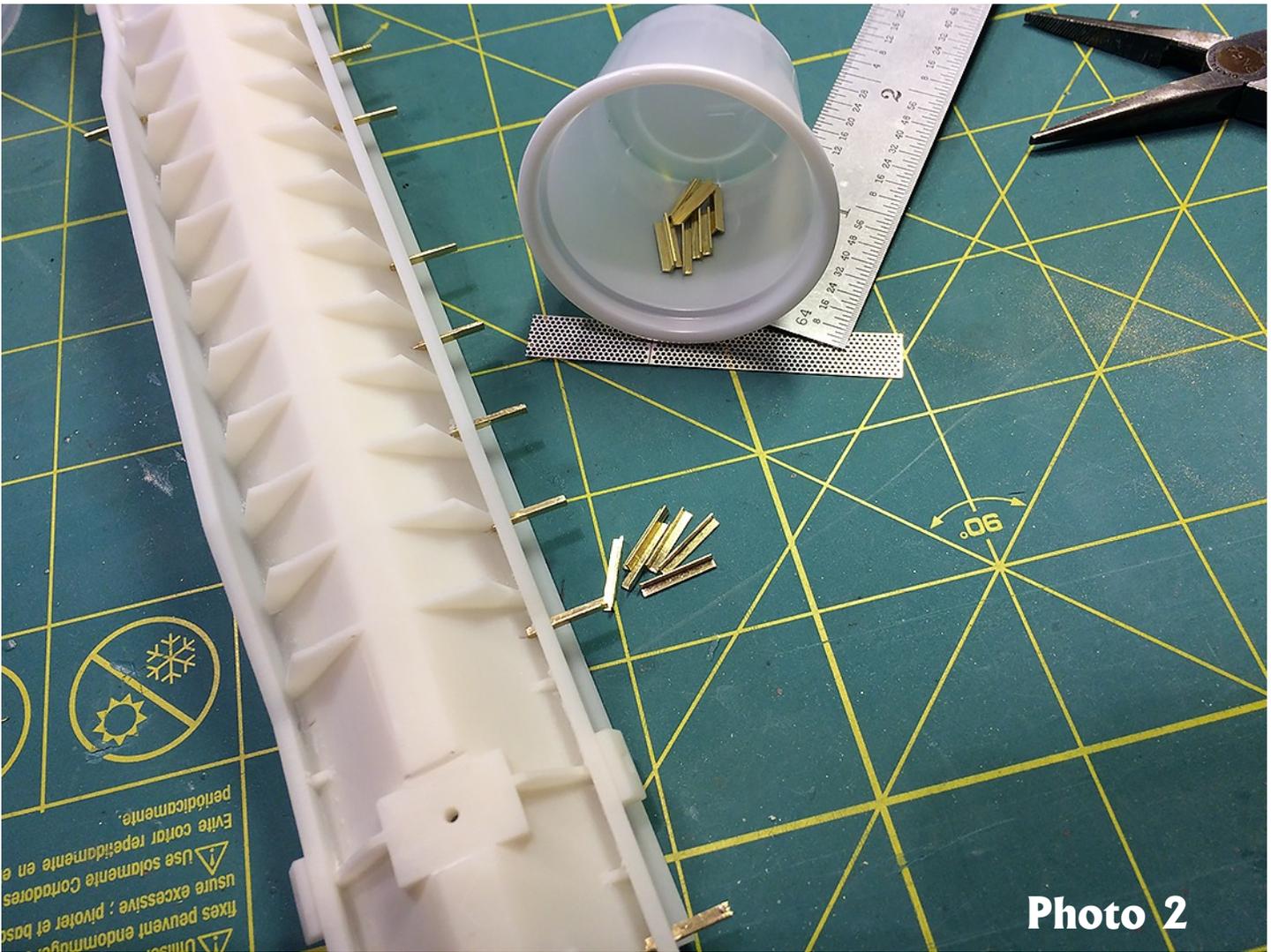


Photo 2 shows the final brass angle pieces cut to length and placed in the “L” slot holes. Since they are 8 mm deep, the slot continues slightly into the tub of the coil car. This allows the brass angle to be tapped into that part of the car providing quite a bit of support strength for the walkway. The slot size is tight for the brass, it requires a few light taps with a very small hammer to drive the piece home, but the advantage is no adhesive is required.



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SCENE AROUND THE LAYOUT

By Jas Millham

Your piece on buildings from card prompts me to send the attached pictures. The close up of the building has even been mistaken for a photo of a real building, people have asked me where it is!

All the plank, door and slate detail is from postcard. Due to its size and hollow interior which covers two staging tracks, it has a foamboard substructure braced with strip-wood (firework rocket sticks!). The windows were recycled from HO Germanic buildings found in a junk box at a train show. The brackets supporting the hoist room were moulded in car body filler in a silicone rubber mould produced from a .060" plastic card pattern. It was sprayed with grey primer and overpainted with emulsion paint which doesn't cover completely in one coat, allowing some grey to show through giving an aged paint effect





S SCALE SHOWS & MEETS

The S Scale Resource Magazine will now be providing a free listing of upcoming events. This small, text only listing will include the Event, Date, Location, Type of Event, and Contact Information. [Click here](#) to go to the sign up form. This form will take your information, and we will publish it in our next issue. If it is an annual event, you will need to submit your information every year.

2019 NASG Convention

July 30 through August 3, 2019

"Queen City Express" Hosted by the Central Ohio S Gaugers

NASG comes to the midwest! The 2019 NASG Convention has a beautiful hotel, wonderful tours, exciting events, plus all the fun and excitement that can only be found with a gathering of fellow model railroad fans.

Website: <https://2019nasgconvention.com>

FALL S FEST 2019

November 1-3, 2018

American Flyer S Gaugers of St. Louis will hold this year's Fall S Fest at the DoubleTree Westport Hotel by Hilton (FSF room rate \$99 per night per room, 1 to 4 occupants; call directly at (314) 434-0100; do not use the 1-800 number).

Website: <http://www.trainweb.org/afsgsla/>

O & S Scale Midwest Show

Formerly the Indianapolis O Scale Show / S Scale Midwest Show

New name, but the same great show! This year Saturday and Sunday, September 21-22, 2018

It's September! Time to kick off your modeling season. Come enjoy the O & S Scale Midwest Show.

This is a dedicated 2 rail O Scale and S Scale show; however, we encourage and welcome the many modelers and collectors from the 3 rail and high rail side of the hobby to attend. There are many aspects of the hobby, including building, scenery and more that applies to any scale. Moreover, this show is a great place to get inspired while meeting old friends and making new ones!

Website: oscalemidwest.com/

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Wrap-Up from

S Scale West

By Dan Dawdy

Another S West ended a few hours ago as I write this from our hotel room. We had a great time meeting old friends and making new ones. What follows are few highlights from the show.



Paul Vaughn from Precision Vintage Classics was showing his new 3D printed castings. We'll have more from Paul in future issues.





Dan Navarre from River Raisin Models and Jettie Padgett enjoying the show.





Jerry Porter on right talks with Andrew Ditto about a model.





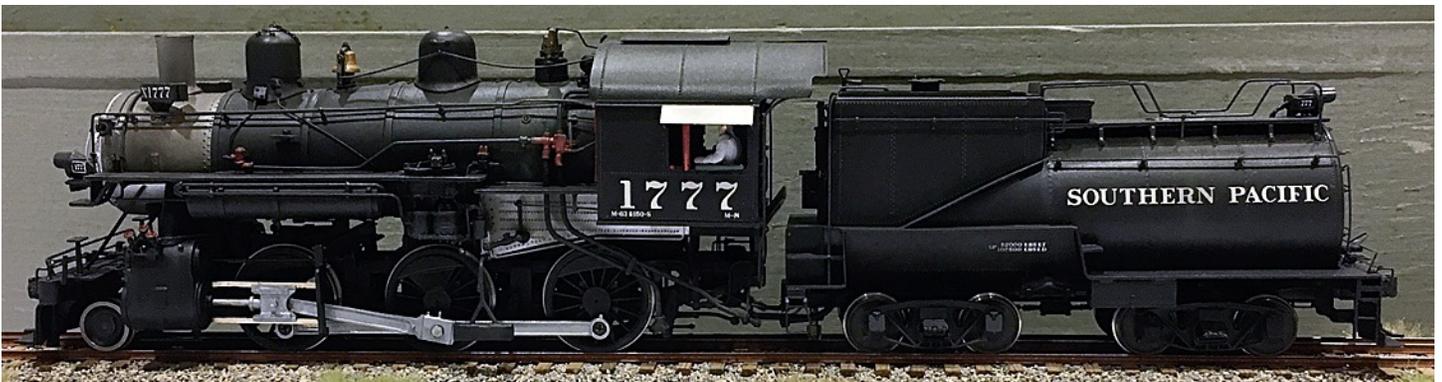
Steve Wolcott from Pre-Size talks to customers.



A collection of S scale brass that Jerry Porter brought.



Paul Washburn and Bill McClung enjoying the show.



Two beautiful scratch built models in the contest room.



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